

# Annual Report

## *FY 2002-03*

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Department  
of  
Community  
Correction

“Service with Integrity and Excellence”

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# Equal Employment Statement

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In keeping with the mission of the Arkansas Department of Community Correction, the Agency employs individuals who are dependable, professional and sincerely interested in achieving the mission of the Agency.

The DCC provides equal employment opportunities without discrimination based on race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, pregnancy, disability, or veteran status. This policy and practice relates to all phases of employment including, but not limited to, recruiting, hiring, placement, promotion, transfer, layoff, recall, termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, training, use of facilities and participation in agency-sponsored activities and programs.

All members of the DCC management staff are familiar with this statement of policy, the philosophy behind it, and their responsibility to apply these principles in good faith.

# Board of Corrections

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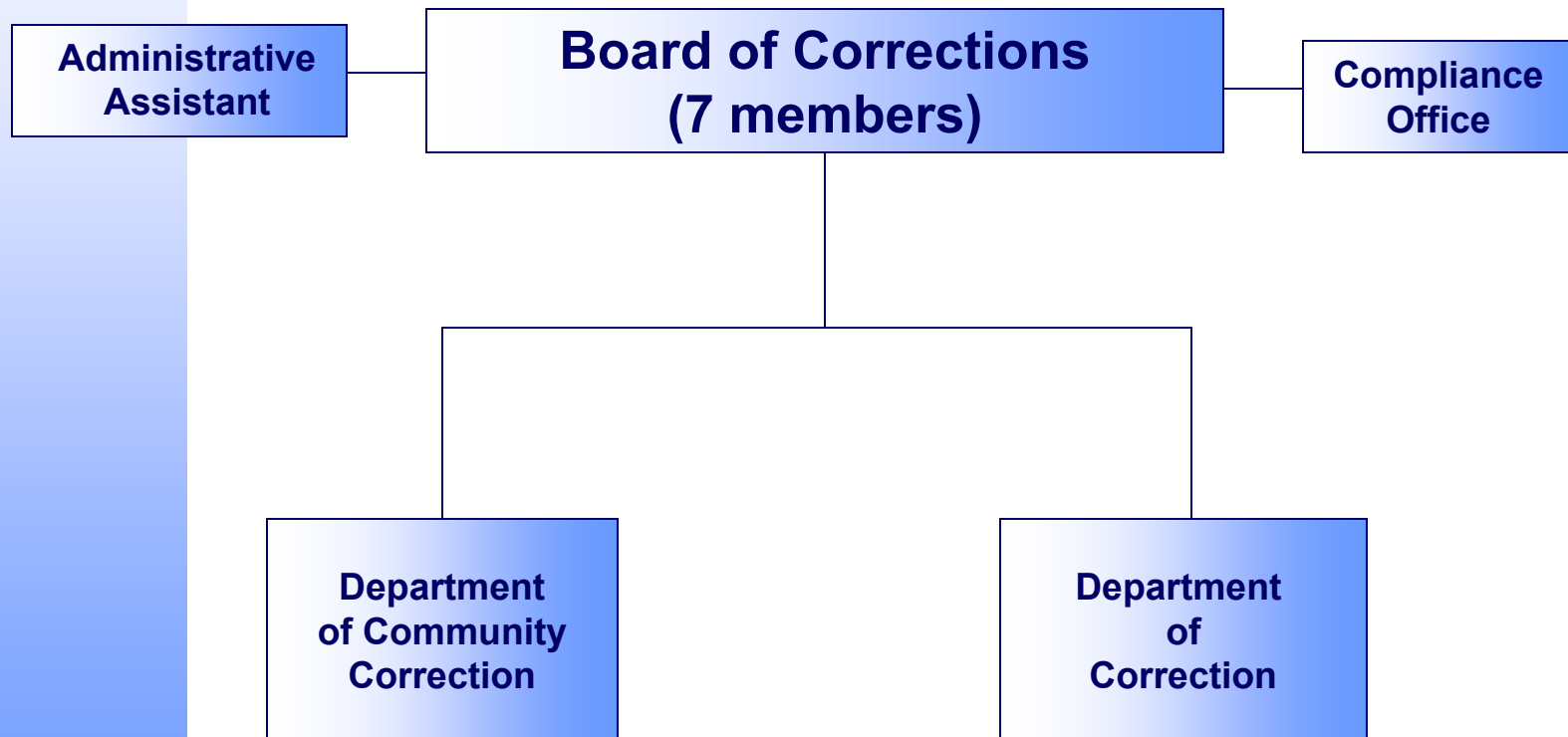
*“Fulfill the mandates of the court through the use of confinement, treatment and supervision in a safe and humane manner, while providing offenders the opportunity for positive change, thus contributing to public safety.”*



# Arkansas Corrections

**Criminal  
Courts**

**Post Prison  
Transfer Board**



# Board Vision

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- ❖ The paramount aim is to produce crime-free, productive citizens and end the revolving door of crime.
- ❖ Our relationships with offenders, victims, families, staff, service groups and agencies are marked by dignity and respect.
- ❖ A continuum of sentencing options is established with appropriate placement and movement of offenders.
- ❖ The roles of State adult correctional agencies are clear and relationships collaborative so offenders are served with continuity.
- ❖ Every offender is given an opportunity to improve himself/herself in an environment safe for both staff and offender.
- ❖ Our decisions are driven by data and knowledge of what works.

## Board Members

Benny Magness, **Chair**

Drew Baker, **Vice Chair**

Kelly Pace, **Secretary**

Leroy Brownlee

William Ferren

Pastor J. Aaron Hawkins

Dr. Mary Parker

*“Service with Integrity and Excellence”*

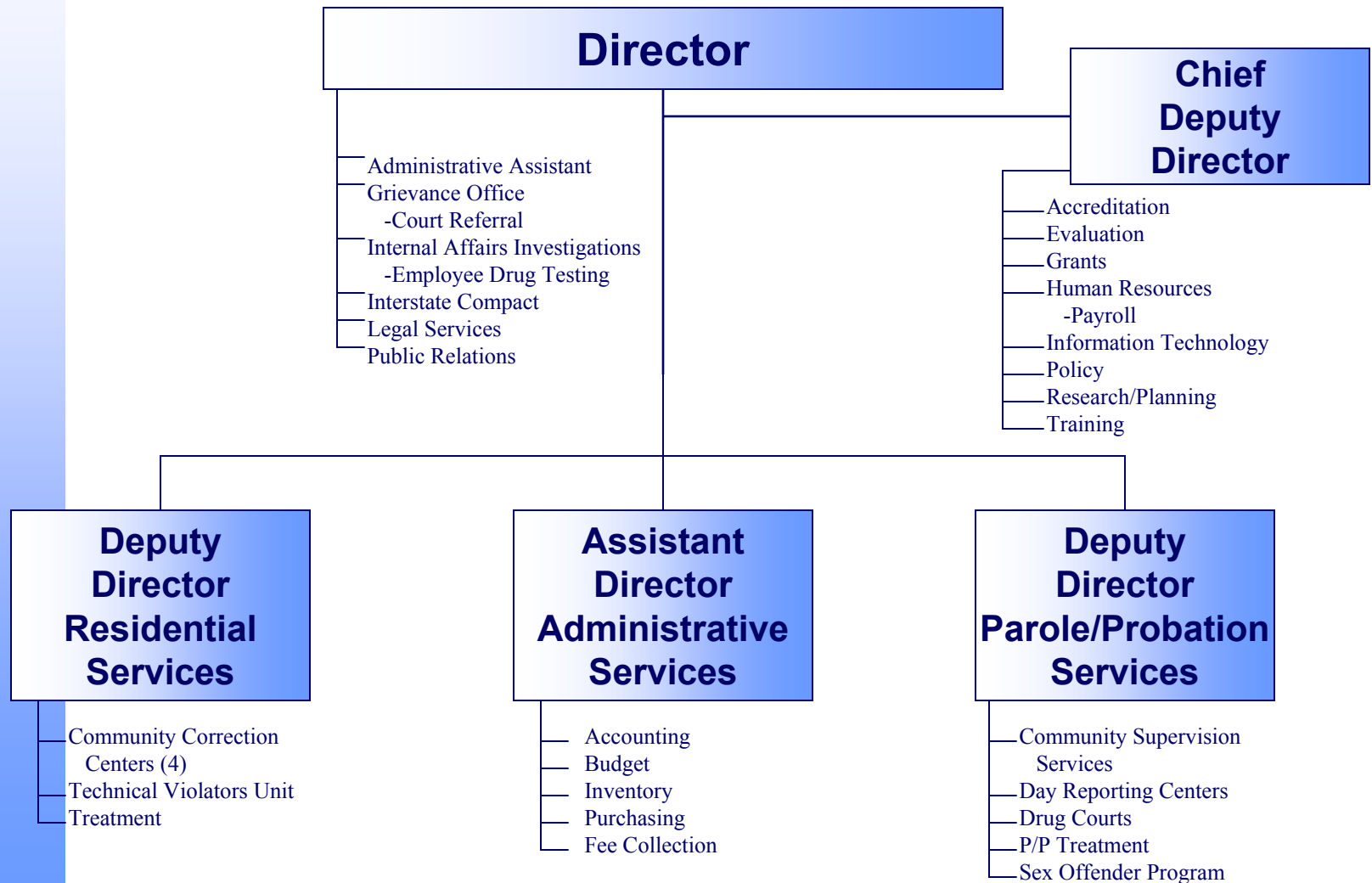
# Department of Community Correction

When the Arkansas Legislature passed the Community Punishment Act (548) in 1993, the Department of Community Punishment was created. The purpose of this act was to establish an agency to assume the responsibilities of management of all community punishment facilities and services, execute the orders of the criminal courts of the state of Arkansas and provide for the supervision, treatment, rehabilitation and restoration of adult offenders as useful law-abiding citizens within the community.

The ultimate goal of the Act was to balance the need for punishment with services and to assist the offender in becoming a law-abiding citizen. The DCP is responsible for the administration of all community punishment facilities, services and means of supervision, including adult probation and parole and any other types of post release supervision.

During the 83rd Session of the General Assembly, a bill was filed primarily to rename the Department of Community Punishment. The bill was signed by the Governor and is now Act 323 of 2001. The official name of the agency changed to the Department of Community Correction (DCC) on August 13, 2001. This act also changed the Board of Correction and Community Punishment to the Board of Corrections.

# Department of Community Correction



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## *Mission*

“To promote public safety and a crime-free lifestyle by providing community-based sanctions in a cost-effective manner, and enforcing state laws and court mandates in the supervision of adult offenders remanded to the Department of Community Correction.”

## *Philosophy*

“There is good in all people; how we deal with them determines how much of it we see.”

## *Goals*

- ❖ To provide appropriate and effective supervision of offenders in the community.
- ❖ To provide for the confinement, care, control and treatment of offenders sentenced to or confined in community punishment centers in an adequate, safe and secure environment.
- ❖ To develop and implement sanctions, programs and services needed to function within the scope of the mission.
- ❖ To improve staff recruiting, retention and training efforts.



**G. David Guntharp**  
Director



**Veter Howard**  
Chief Deputy Director



**Dan Roberts**  
Deputy Director Parole  
and Probation Services



**Rick Hart**  
Deputy Director Residential  
Services

## Management Team

The Director is the agency's chief executive, administrative and fiscal officer, and is responsible for the agency's philosophy, mission, and operations. The management team members have the authority and responsibility to direct the major functions within the department. They are committed to fulfill the mission and goals of the agency.



**David Eberhard**  
Legal Counsel



**Bill Lowe**  
Human Resources  
Administrator



**Linda Strong**  
Deputy Compact  
Administrator



**Rhonda Sharp**  
Assistant to Director  
for Public Relations



**Anne Geddings**  
Assistant Director  
Administrative  
Services

# Appropriations

## 510 General Revenue

Regular Salaries	\$20,191,517
Extra Help	50,000
Matching	5,854,812
Overtime	30,000
Operating Expense	6,570,663
Travel Conference	36,000
Professional Services	2,151,504
Data Processing	10,621
Total Appropriated	34,895,117
Total Allocated	29,545,278
Spent	29,531,823

## 548 Drug Forfeiture Fund

Regular Salaries	\$642,240
Matching	186,250
Operating Expense	33,460
Travel Conference	2,370
Professional Services	5,000
Total Appropriated	869,320
Total Allocated	422,228
Spent	419,374

## 1BA Federal Grants

Regular Salaries	\$1,146,245
Matching	353,535
Sub grants	1,000,000
Operating Expense	181,400
Travel Conference	62,426
Professional Services	663,853
Capital Outlay	63,906
Total Appropriated	3,471,365
Total Allocated	3,471,365
Spent	406,043

## 2GH Special Revenue

Regular Salaries	\$3,245,664
Matching	983,039
War Memorial Parking	10,000
CC Programs	1,977,469
Operating Expense	1,053,417
Travel Conference	4,000
Professional Services	300,000
Total Appropriated	7,573,589
Total Allocated	7,573,589
Spent	7,354,543

# Accomplishments

Due to issues surrounding the State economy, DCC, along with other state agencies, experienced tremendous difficulty in getting an appropriation act passed through 84th General Assembly of the Arkansas Legislature. For the first time, DCC did not get an approved budget through the regular session. Instead, the agency budget was passed through the first Extraordinary Session of the 84th General Assembly. The budget reflected a \$14,000,000 increase in general revenues and \$6,000,000 in capital improvement funds to establish new initiatives as follows: A 300-bed technical violators program; sex-offender program; absorb eight and establish twenty additional drug courts with general revenues; add fifty-one new parole/probation officers and supervisors to lower caseloads; add seven counselors; and expand the residential capacity by 150 beds.

## Administrative ❖

The DCC Director, G. David Guntharp was elected chairman of the Executive Committee of the Interstate Compact Commission; and became Commissioner of the same; and DCC hosted the ISC meeting with every state represented.

- ❖ The ISC supervision fee increased to offset the cost of operation, and various internal processes were implemented to reduce agency costs, such as paperless job advertisements, electronic employee ID badge system, consolidation of field offices.
- ❖ An electronic vehicle maintenance system was developed and implemented for tracking vehicle maintenance and preparing required DF&A reports.
- ❖ Staff generated over \$9,500 in United Way donations.
- ❖ AASIS training classes were conducted for DCC employees, enhancing productivity.
- ❖ DCC recruited and processed approximately 260 positions for new and existing programs.
- ❖ Developed and implemented an employee Furlough Plan.

## Information Technology ❖

Staff administered the Information Technology (IT) plan and met the technology needs of the agency in a significant way. Some of those accomplishments include the following:

- ✓ Implemented an eOMIS interface for the Arkansas Employment Security Department to rapidly verify employer claims for tax credits under the Work Opportunity Tax Credit program for employers hiring offenders within 12 months of being released from supervision. They processed \$139,200 in potential tax credits during the first day using this interface.
- ✓ Diagnosed problems with existing Commissary receipt printers, ordered replacement printers, and developed a means for Centers to print resident's bar code identification onto laser labels. Labels were laminated onto resident ID cards for positive identification and to facilitate accurate data entry.
- ✓ Evaluated the tape backup process for efficiency and data storage requirements.
- ✓ Replaced the problematic and expensive commissary system and implemented the Inmate Banking module of eOMIS to support the commissaries and general ledger functions in centers.



- ✓ Expanded the use of Virtual Network Client (VNC) to remotely diagnose and reconfigure DCC computers.
- ✓ Coordinated and managed actions on Phase II of eOMIS implementation.
- ✓ Completed the integration of eOMIS information and photos on probationers and parolees into the JusticeXchange web site. This project allows DCC officers immediate access to jail booking information statewide and in four other states, was completed with the cooperation of the DCC and ACIC Directors and authorization of staff to accomplish this project.
- ✓ Developed and implemented an eOMIS staff training module.
- ✓ Coordinated with Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) MIS staff for interfacing the new AOC system with eOMIS.
- ❖ Organized project to enable VINE notifications for victims of probationers/parolees.
- ❖ Coordinated modifications to the Monthly Field Report in eOMIS.
- ❖ Coordinated next phase of JusticeXchange and eOMIS interface.
- ❖ Enhanced eOMIS to support the ACIC interface using JAVA Messaging Services.
- ❖ Revised eOMIS to improve the parole board administration process.
- ❖ Developed an inquiry to find potential tax credits for employers of offenders.
- ❖ Implemented the visitation module at facilities for visitor authorization and visit event tracking.
- ❖ Implemented new time computation recap screen, an online version of the Time Card report.
- ❖ Enhanced the ACIC interface to support officer notification with the name of the agency initiating the law enforcement request.
- ❖ Developed and implemented support for Senate Bill 828 regarding the award of Meritorious Good Time to offenders on supervision.
- ❖ Created support for entering the Governor's decision regarding parole board hearing decisions.
- ❖ Provided eOMIS lecture and training session for the Arkansas Association of Probation and Parole Officer's Spring conference in Eureka Springs.
- ❖ The DCC IT Administrator was selected as a member of the US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Justice XML Structured Task Force. This Task Force is charged with defining and publishing recommendations for the JXML Registry and Repository. IT Administrator also participated in a three day session at Georgia Tech Research Institute to finalize specifications for the Beta Release. This is a federally funded initiative.
- ❖ Participated in IJIS Subcommittee meetings concerning information sharing initiatives with other agencies.

## Research and Planning

- ❖ Conducted recidivism studies of the community correction centers, parole and probation, initiated one for the Special Needs Program.
- ❖ Worked with contractors to design the information reporting system for Drug Courts. When completed, change will better accommodate the operational needs and subsequent evaluation of the programs.
- ❖ In the spring of 2002, DCC and DOC personnel attended the first ever Arkansas Fire and Safety Academy seminar held exclusively for detention and correctional staff. The twelve DCC participants completed the course requirements and are now recognized by their jurisdictional authority as qualified to conduct Fire and Safety Inspection at their respective facilities.
- ❖ During fiscal year 2003, policies were made available to employees and the public through the agency web site. The paper and manpower previously needed to publish and maintain paper policy manuals are now channeled into mission-focused activities.
- ❖ Policy established or revised included areas such as employee conduct and discipline, supervision, employee performance, fiscal affairs, accreditation, research and evaluation, community correction center criteria and standards, resident conduct, volunteerism, technical violators, and threats.
- ❖ Working with the Emergency Plans Task Force led to a collaboration with the State Fire Marshal's office resulting in the first Arkansas Fire and Life Safety Academy—a week-long training conference for the field of Corrections hosted by the State Police. More than 75 participants from the Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services, and the Department of Community Correction participated. The academy provided credentialing to CCC safety officers, satisfying the ACA requirement for agency qualified fire inspectors.

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## Grants

- ❖ The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Program (OJP), rated Arkansas' Serious and Violent Offender Initiative "highly favorable" in their evaluation of the grant proposal and approved \$2,070,000 for the project. USDOJ, OJP is also using Arkansas' Work Plan as a nationwide example for other grant recipients.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District/Jonesboro and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit received and are participating in drug court planning grants—Drug Court Programs Offices.

Technical assistance was requested and received from the Center for Sex Offender Management, and Drug Court Programs Office. Over 300 professionals in the correctional area were trained.

The DCC Grants Office submitted five grant requests and all were approved, subsequently bringing \$3,294,395 in grant funds to the agency FY 03.

- Arkansas Transitional Employment Board (\$416,806)

- SWACCC Special Needs Unit (\$379,575)

- Workforce Education - SEACCC Women in Transition (\$55,000)

- 8th North Judicial District Drug Court Implementation Grant (\$347,213)

- Serious and Violent Offender Initiative approved for \$2,070,000

- Workforce Education/Carl D. Perkins (\$25,800)

Completed an NIC Survey, a Needs Assessment for Correctional Management and Executive Leadership Development, a U.S.D.O.J., Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2002 Annual Probation Survey and a 2002 Annual Parole Survey.

Training

Training presented or coordinated by the Central Training Staff. (Excludes training presented at local offices)

RSBT Academies 160 Hours: 3

Graduated: 62

Total Training Hours: 9920

PPO Academies 240 Hours: 3

Graduated: 66

Total Training Hours: 15840

BATC Academies 18 Hours: 2

Graduated: 49

Total Training Hours: 882

CPR Training (Non-Academy): 6

Graduated: 35

Total Training Hours: 210

AAPPA Conference 10/14 Hours: 2

Completed: 396

Total Training Hours: 5224

Total Training Man Hours: 32,076

# Parole/Probation Supervision Areas

## Assistant

## Directors

Steve Arnold

Jeff Tillman

## Parole/Probation Treatment Area

## Manager

Lisa Ray

## Institutional

## Release Area

## Manager

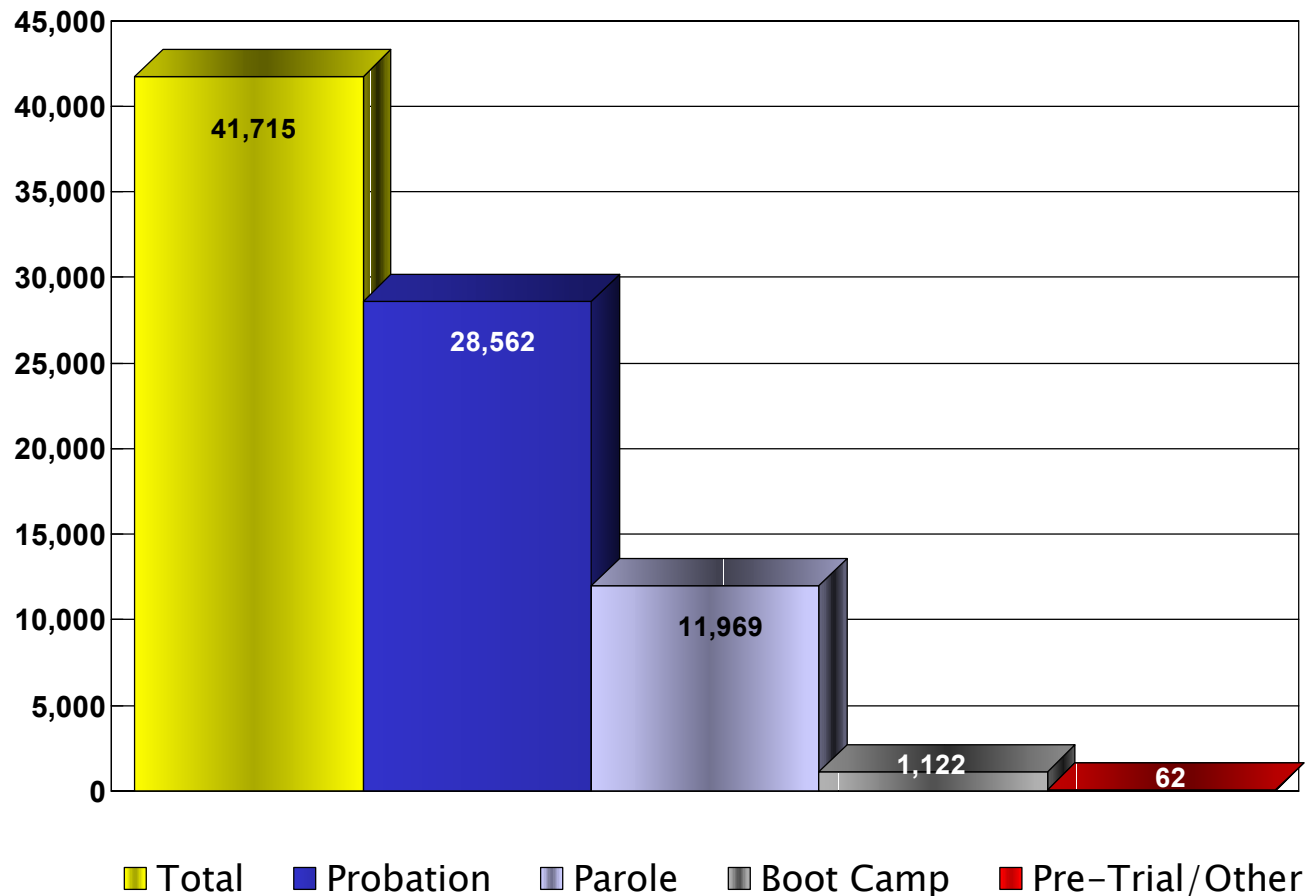
Milton Henderson



## Parole/Probation Area Managers

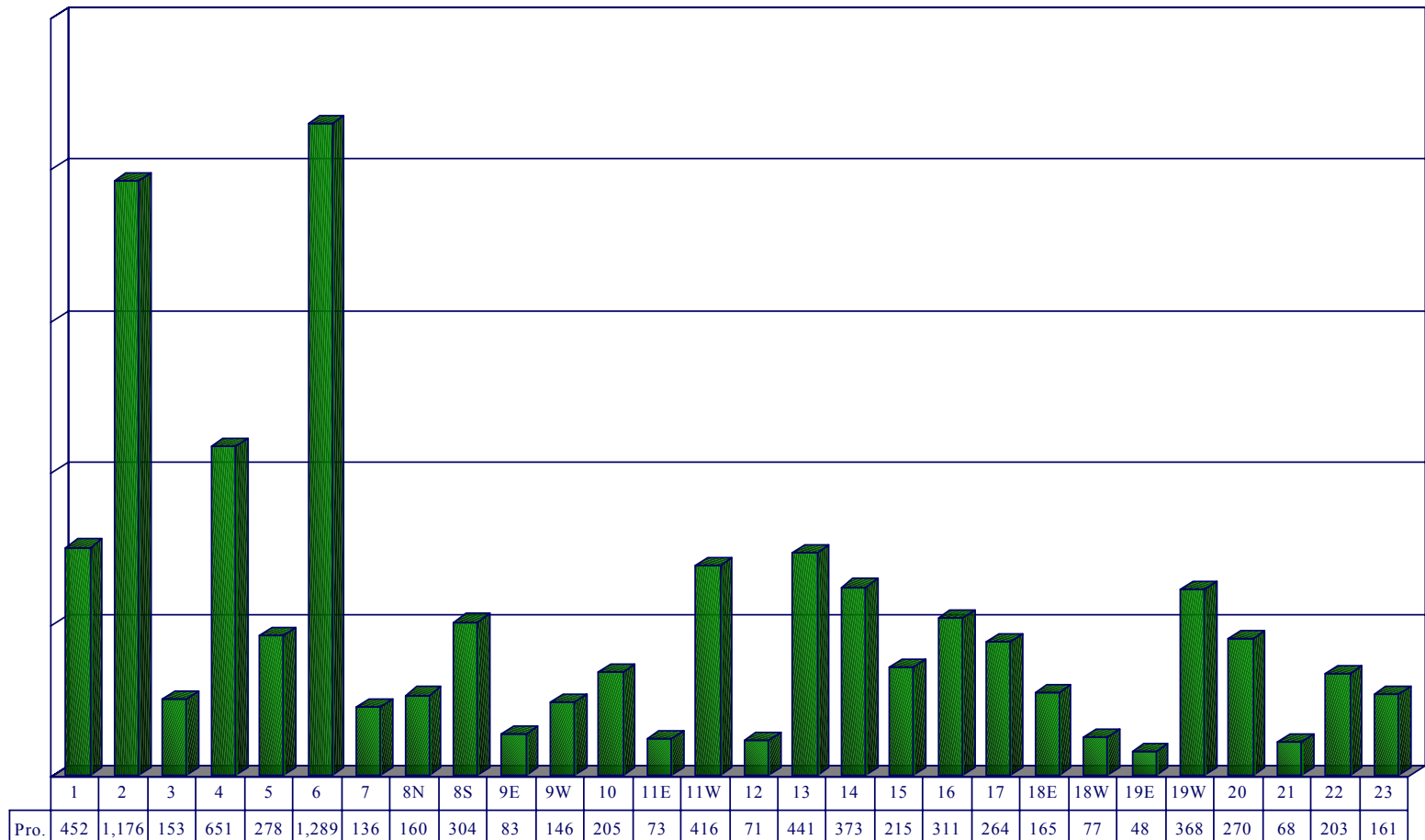
1. Vince Morris
2. Mike Thomas
3. Jim Nance
4. Roy Thomas
5. Paul Larcade
6. Jerry Bradshaw
7. Damian McNeal
8. Elizabeth Taylor
9. Wayne Ward
10. Anita Efird
11. Melody Anderson
12. R.C. Hillman
13. Rudolph Stennis

# Community Supervision Caseload



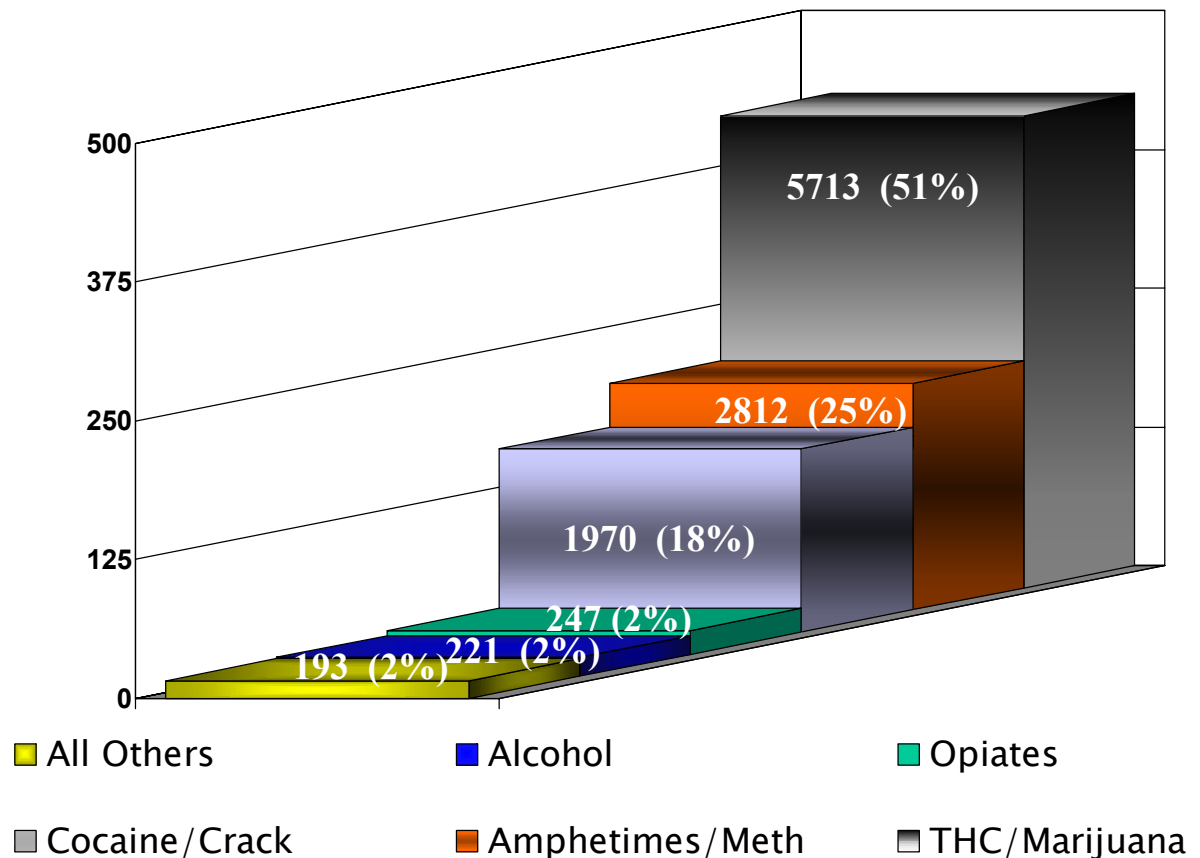
**June 30, 2003**

# Probation Admissions by Judicial District July 1, 2002 – June 30, 2003



# Statewide Parole/Probation Drug Activity by Drug Type

During FY03, 34,431 offenders were administered 126,156 tests and 23% of the offenders tested positive for at least one substance.



**FY 2003**



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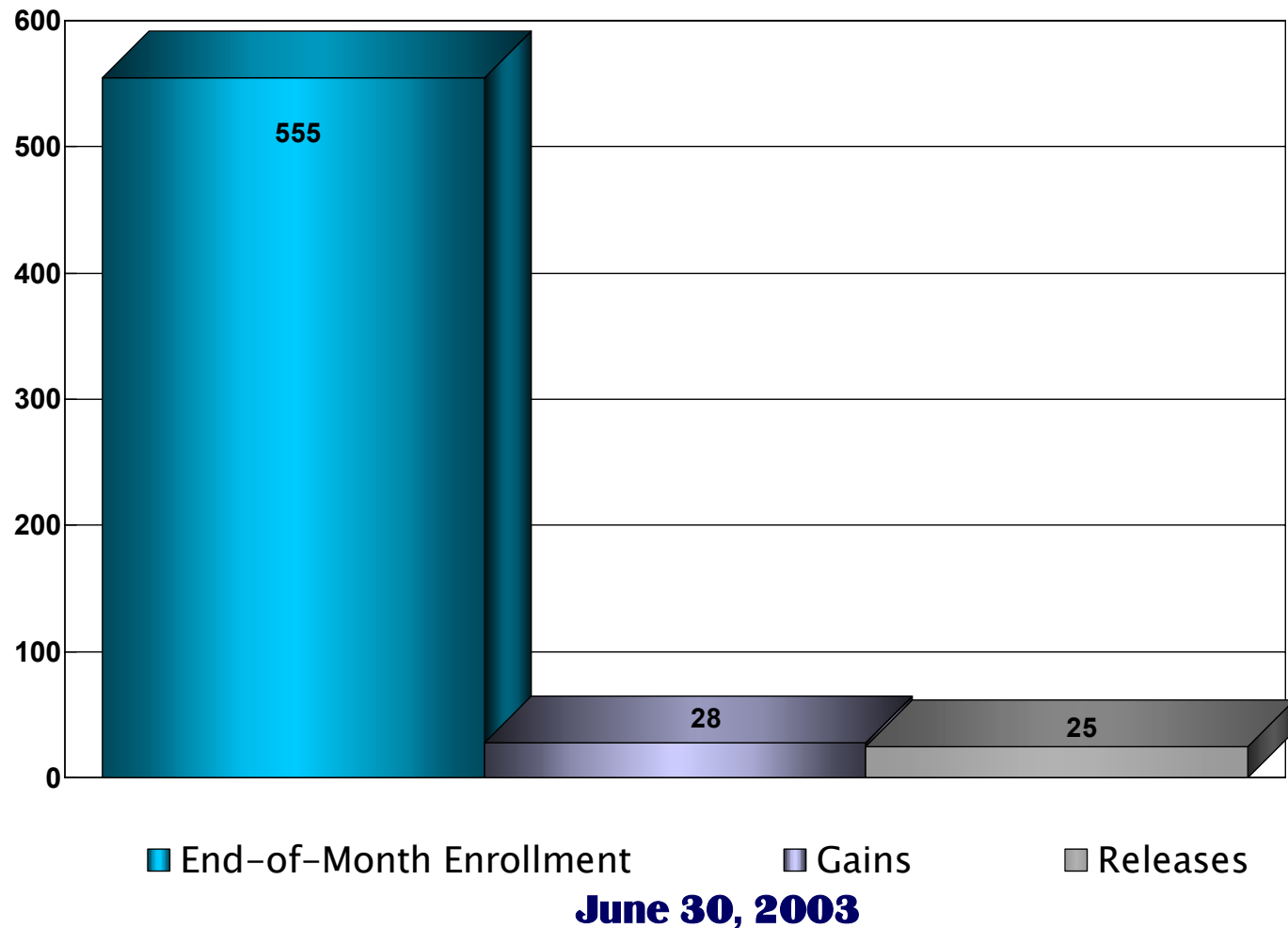
During the year 2003, the staff of the Probation and Parole Division performed admirably. The name of the division was appropriately changed from “Field Operations” to Probation/Parole Services”. Again a significant number of accomplishments occurred. Basically, staff worked toward the following major goals:

**K Expand Probation/Parole Treatment Programs and Reduce Recidivism Through Innovative Programs.** The following program initiatives were planned to contribute to easing the prison population and county jail backup:

" ***Roving Counselor Program:*** This program provided substance abuse treatment counseling services to the probation/parole population. Prior to the 2003 legislative session, DCC employed only 14 counselors to provide services to over 44,000 offenders statewide. Studies indicate that an estimated 70-80% of the offender population were influenced by abuse of some kind of mood altering substance or alcohol during the commission of their crimes. On the average, there are 1600 - 1800 offenders receiving regular counseling services at any given time. During the 2003 session, 7 additional positions were funded. This allowed the DCC to have statewide coverage in terms of offenders access to counseling services. This program is making a tremendous impact on special conditions and aftercare needs for clients. It facilitates a sound aftercare component.

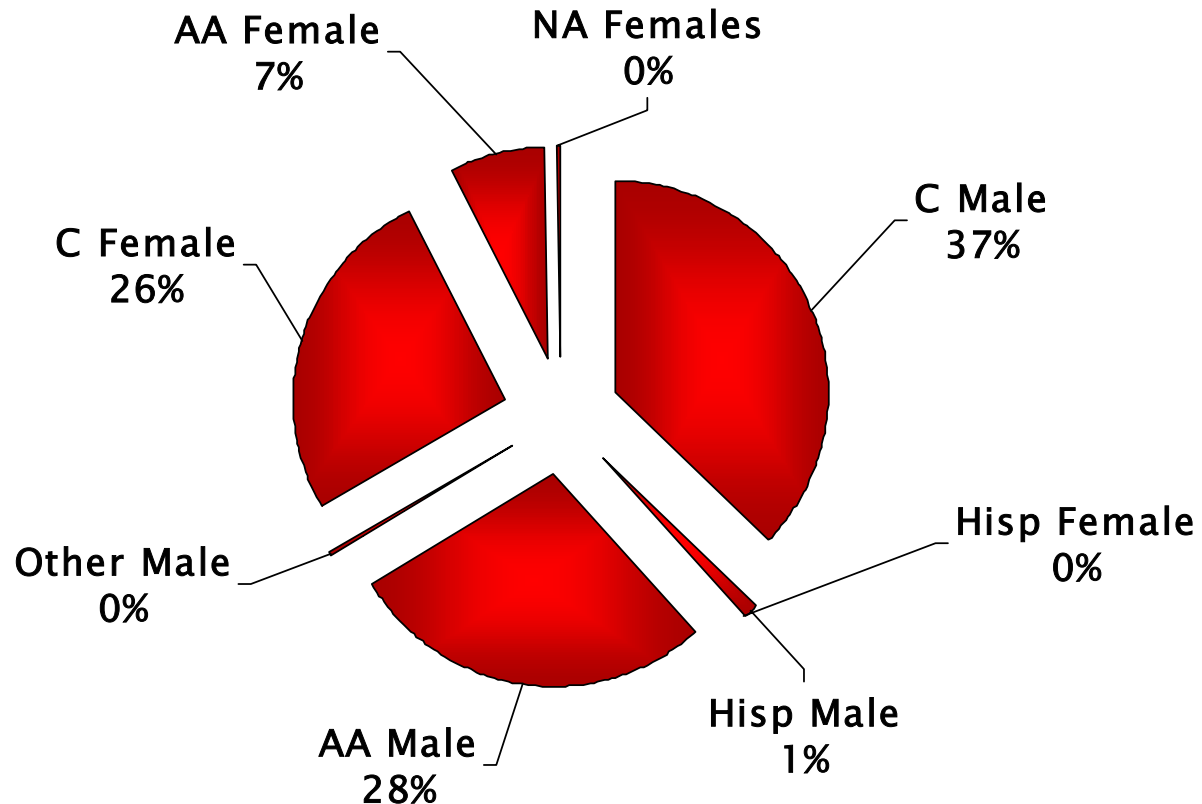
" ***Drug Courts:*** This is a special (primarily post-adjudication) court given the responsibility to handle probation cases involving drug-involved offenders through an intense supervision, monitoring, and treatment programs. Participants receive outpatient treatment and counseling, are subject to economic and other sanctions, and frequent drug testing and court appearances. Successful completion of the program results in dismissal of the charges, reduced or set aside sentences, lesser penalties, or a combination. After completion of the program, graduates enter into a 2-year strictly supervised probation aftercare program. The goal is to reduce substance abuse and recidivism.

# Statewide Drug Court Population



# DCC Drug Courts

## Gender and Race June 30, 2003



**AA – African American    C – Caucasian**

**Hisp – Hispanic    NA – Native American**

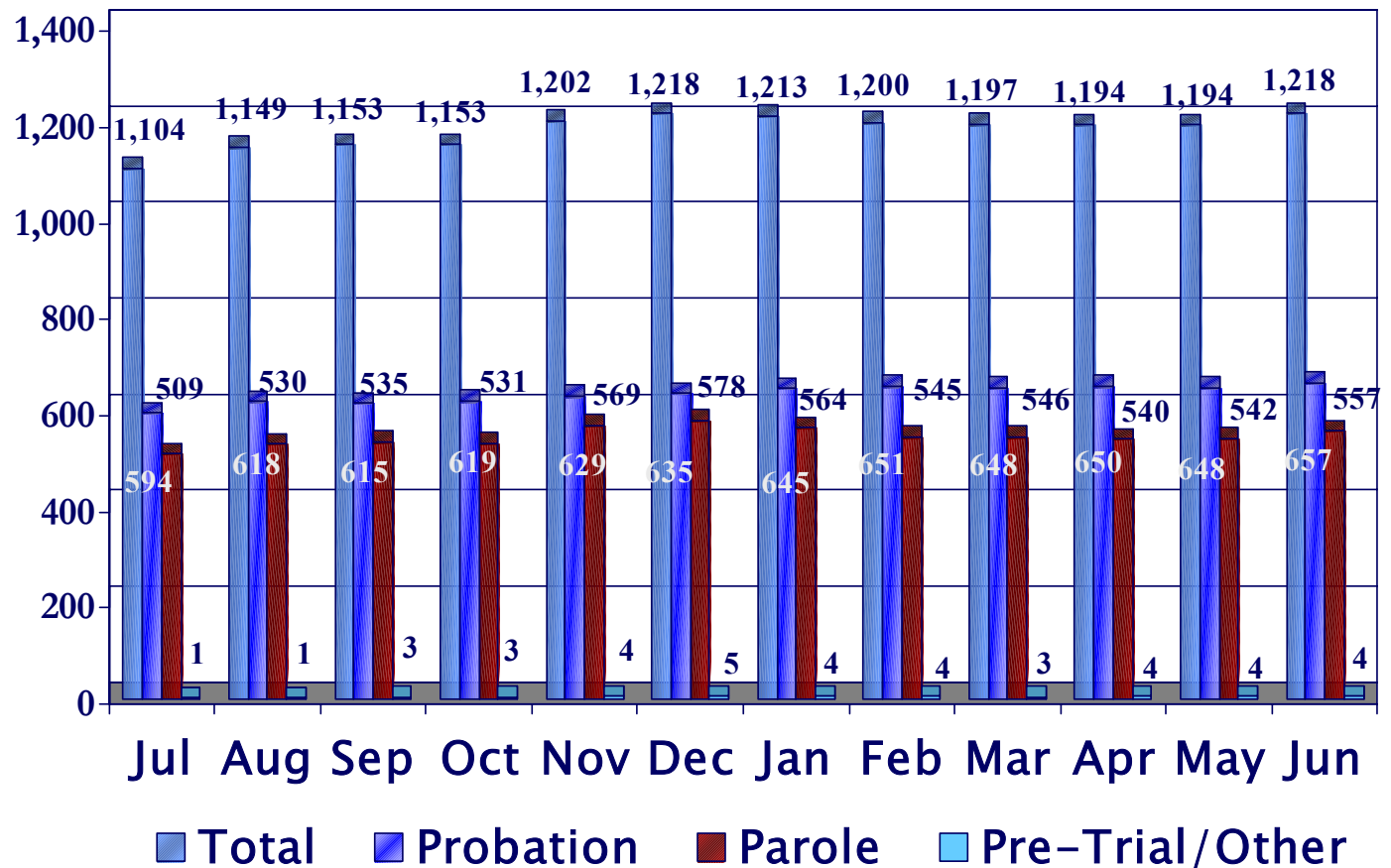
**66% Male and 34% Female**

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The legislature provided appropriation and funding to continue 7 existing drug courts and to establish additional courts, at least one in each judicial district. At this time, 28 courts have been established (including the 7 existing ones), with 26 up and operating, and 2 to be operational by March 2004. Each court is staffed with a supervision officer, counselor and intake officer. Staffing depends primarily on the level of services and the DCC's ability to fund the positions. As of June 30, 2003, there were 555 offenders participating in drug courts statewide. DCC contracted with an outside evaluator to developing an evaluation tool for this program, and in a couple of instances, to actually evaluate the program effectiveness through process and outcome measures. The new drug courts are located in Nashville, Mena, Arkadelphia, Hot Springs, Benton, Russellville, Morrilton, Conway, Mt. Home, Batesville, Searcy, Pocahontas, West Memphis, Jonesboro, Forrest City, Lonoke, Pine Bluff, Monticello, Fayetteville (pre-adjudicated), and Stuttgart. These additions required a staff of fifty-seven new employees.

•***Sex Offender Program for Parolees:*** The legislature appropriated funds for 10 positions for developing and implementing a pilot sex offender program. Five new supervision officer positions will be scheduled for intensive training on how to supervise sex offenders. Additionally, 2 officers will be hired and scheduled for training (in Springfield, MO) on voice stress analysis, and 3 will be hired and scheduled for training (in Atlanta, GA) as polygraphers to help maintain the integrity of the program. All will be assigned and fully certified to manage more than 1300 sex offenders. The other five will be trained as aftercare coordinators and group facilitators. They have been assigned to five regions of the state. They will work closely with the Department of Correction RSVP sex offender program staff and sex offender assessment staff to supervise high profile, level 3, sex offenders in the community. Even with the program being in an infancy stage, we anticipate successful supervision of the high risk offenders and increased public safety.

# Sex Offender Caseload – FY' 03

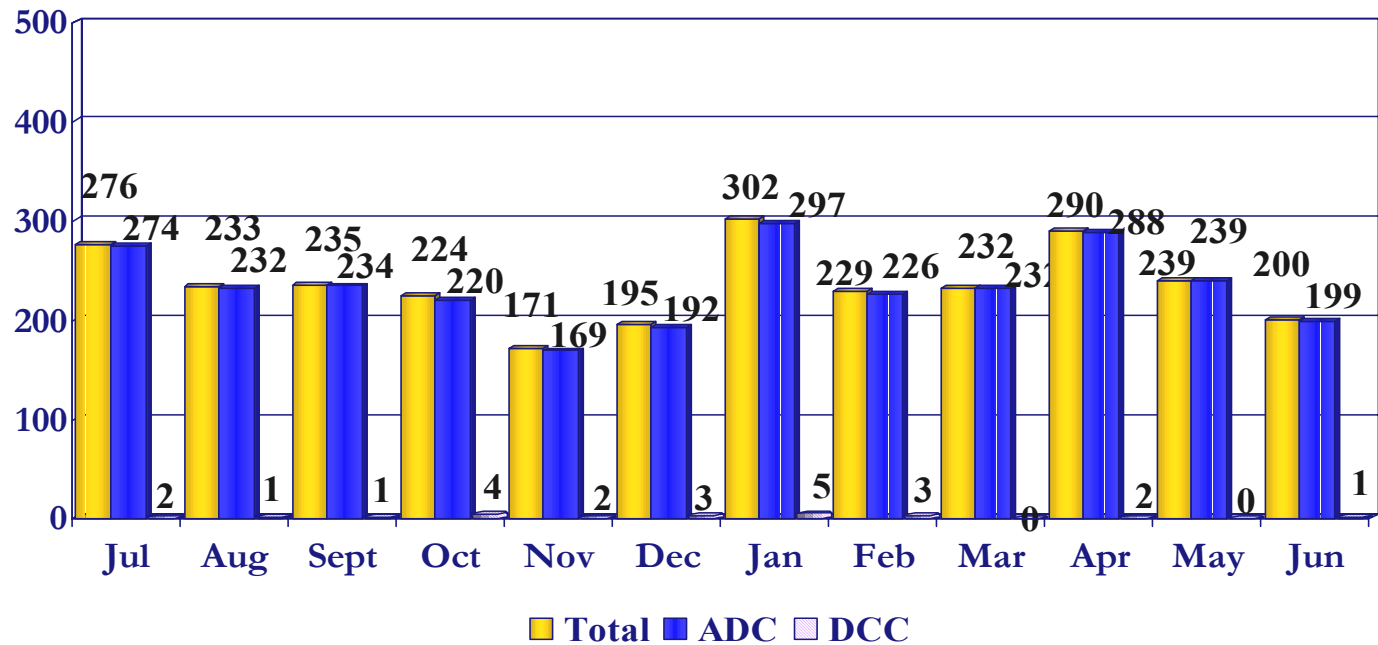


Others include Boot Camp, Pre-trial, and Other

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•***Parole Technical Violators Program:*** - DCC received \$6.5 million in capitol outlay, plus operating expenses to construct and operate a 300 bed male facility for technical parole violators. This center will house offenders for a 60-day period of intense treatment before returning them to the community under DCC supervision or being revoked and returned to prison. The building will be located at Malvern, on the grounds of the ADC prison. It is currently under construction and is expected to open the fall of '04. It appears there is not a facility like this anywhere else in the country. A tremendous amount of planning has been done, with the help of the National Institute of Corrections and others. DCC will open 50 new beds at the Southeast Arkansas Community Correction Center in November, 2003, establishing a Technical Violators Program for females. This facility will be managed under the DCC Deputy Director of Residential Services and is expected to divert approximately 1200 offenders who previously would be housed in traditional prison beds.

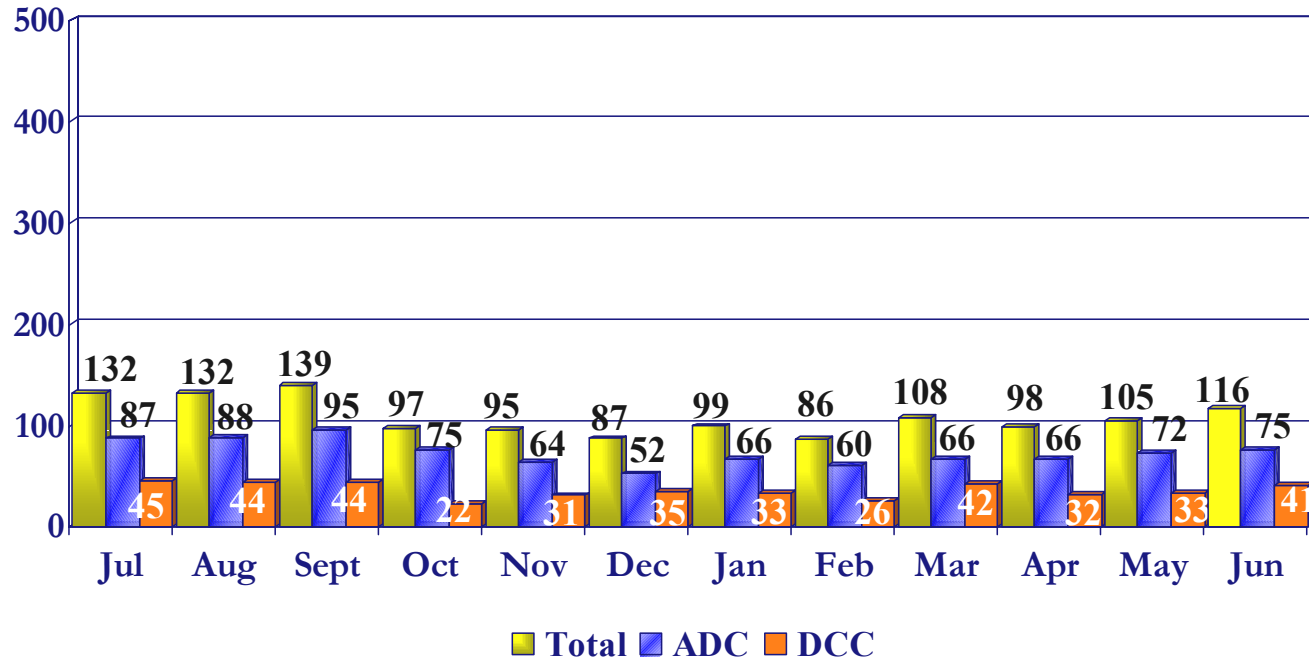
# Parole Revocations Resulting in Incarceration Breakdown Within AR Corrections – FY' 03



Reason for Incarceration	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
New Conviction	86	53	58	69	47	49	67	51	53	52	56	55
Technical Violation	190	180	177	155	124	146	235	178	179	238	183	145
Total	276	233	235	224	171	195	302	229	232	290	239	200

Figures include Boot Camp Releases

# Probation Revocations Resulting in Incarceration Breakdown Within AR Corrections – FY' 03



Reason for Incarceration	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
New Conviction	69	59	72	47	60	47	65	30	48	49	53	68
Technical Violation	63	73	67	50	35	40	34	56	60	49	52	48
Total	132	132	139	97	95	87	99	86	108	98	105	116



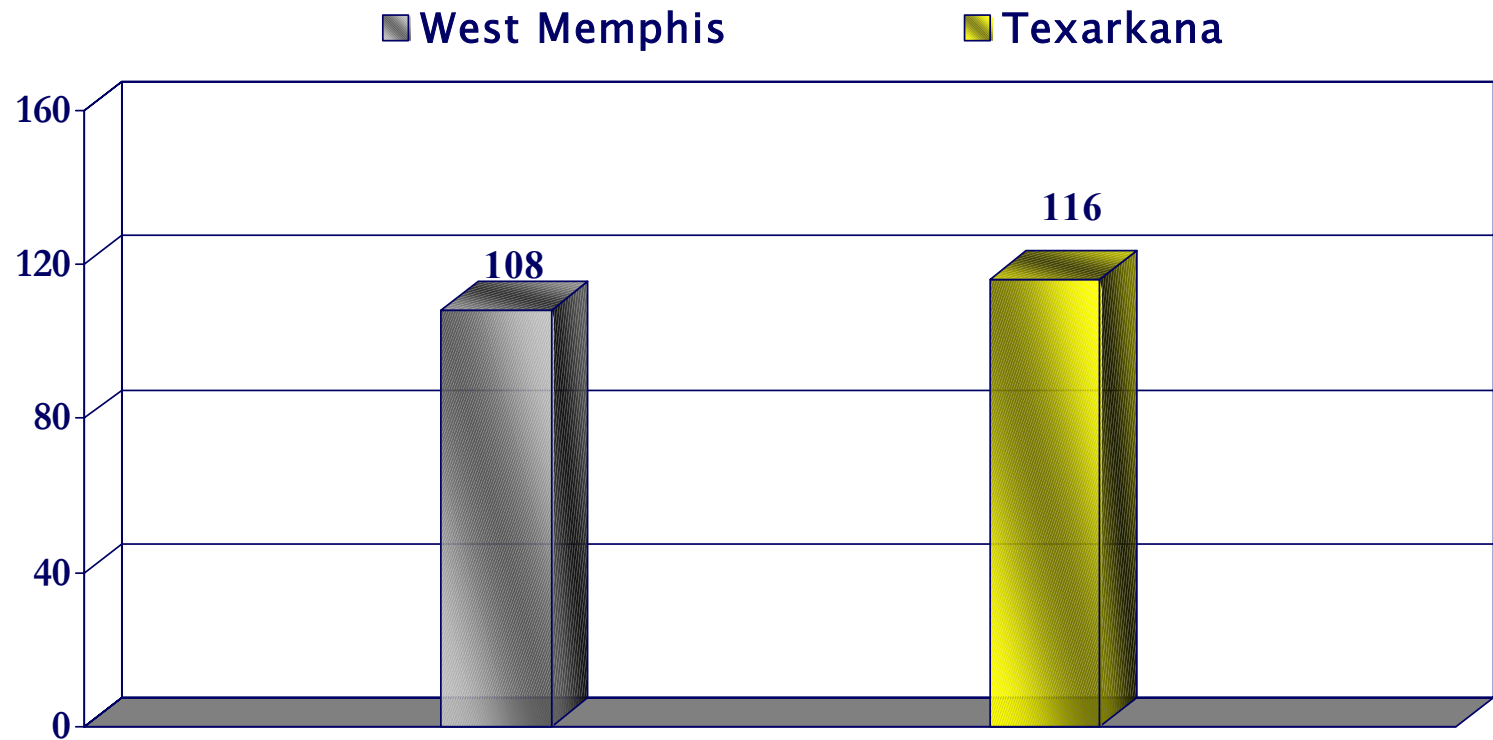
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***Day Reporting Centers (DRC):*** A DRC is a highly structured non-residential program that provides supervision, employment counseling, GED education, literacy training, life skills and other community resource services for offenders, reducing the likelihood of future offenses and the cost for incarceration. Offenders may participate as a condition of supervision or as a sanction for non-compliance with the terms and conditions of their supervision. The two Day Report Centers in Texarkana and West Memphis continued to operate and provide services to clients. These “one stop shopping” centers continue to provide needed services to approximately 150 client each month. Although the legislature provided appropriation and funding for the 2 existing centers and 10 positions for 5 additional centers, the decision was made not to establish the new centers due to legislation that passed, without appropriation or funding, which allows the Department of Correction to invoke an extended Emergency Powers Act which results in additional parolees being released early to parole supervision. The 10 positions authorized by the legislature for establishing 5 additional centers were reassigned to comply with the Extended EPA. During the first six months of 2003, an average of 91 inmates per month were released under the regular EPA. The DCC’s performance will be impacted by cancelling the expansion in that the additional centers are reflected in the agency performance measures.

# Day Reporting Center Enrollment

## June 30, 2003

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**K Reduced Officer Caseloads.** Overall, state probation/parole clients under supervision rose to an unprecedented 43,000. The parole caseload jumped to over 14,000 for the first time in Arkansas history. This increase drove the average probation/parole officer caseload to around 130. These increases prompted an attempt to increase probation/parole staff during the 2003 legislative session in an effort to reduce caseloads and prison/jail populations, and provide alternatives to transitional incarceration. Efforts were successful, and resulted in an increase of 51 new probation/parole officer and supervisor positions in the field. The additional staffing should bring the average caseload per officer to 91. Also, Probation/Parole management temporarily assumed responsibility for the Centralized Collection Unit. Restitution, fee collection and other related issues were resolved this period. The collection rate was near 75%.

**K American Correctional Association Accreditation in Early Calendar Year 2003.** Accreditation offers the opportunity to evaluate agency operations against national standards, remedy deficiencies, and upgrade the quality of correctional programs and services. Although it does not make an agency immune from lawsuits, it does provide a defense for one's actions, when agency policy and procedures are based on nationally recognized standards. In the fall of 2002, the agency elected to participate in a national pilot project to validate the Central Arkansas Therapeutic Community using ACA Performance Based Standards. At the conclusion of the successful audit, DCC made recommended modification to the Therapeutic Community Standards to incorporate sufficient expected practices pertaining to facility operations to allow both the facility and program to be accredited during a single audit. Staff continued to work towards re-accreditation throughout the eventful year, planning and implementing a series of mock audits, conducting appropriate training, and preparing audit files. Numerous hours were spent meeting and collaborating with appropriate staff to ensure all areas of preparation and compliance. In some instances, processes were changed to ensure appropriate information was obtained. Additionally, a position was assigned to assist with this process full time. The actual audit is scheduled for March 2004, with expectations of re-accreditation.

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**K Achieved 90% Capture Rate of All Available Client Data for Entry Into eOMIS (electronic Offender Management Information System).** This project was launched and completed during the report period. The eOMIS is operational and through many hours of cleanup and review, the data housed in the system is more complete and more reliable. eOMIS continues to be a superb tool for the tracking of offenders. The Arkansas Department of Correction adopted the same system and the interface was completed in 2003. The tracking of offenders is much easier due to the integration of the two systems.

**K Other Accomplishments.** The DCC and Arkansas Adult Probation and Parole Association co-sponsored the fall conference in Hot Springs boasted over 325 in attendance, and provided two days of sex offender-specific training provided by the Center for Sex Offender Management. They continue to provide a comprehensive, centralized training and enhance e-spirit-de-corps to the professional probation and parole staff.

Staff turnover rates decreased from the previous year. These low rates can be attributed to standardized supervision, solid leadership and guidance, a clear understanding of the DCC vision, and a professional work environment. Basically, staff feel they work for a professional agency and enjoy what they are doing.

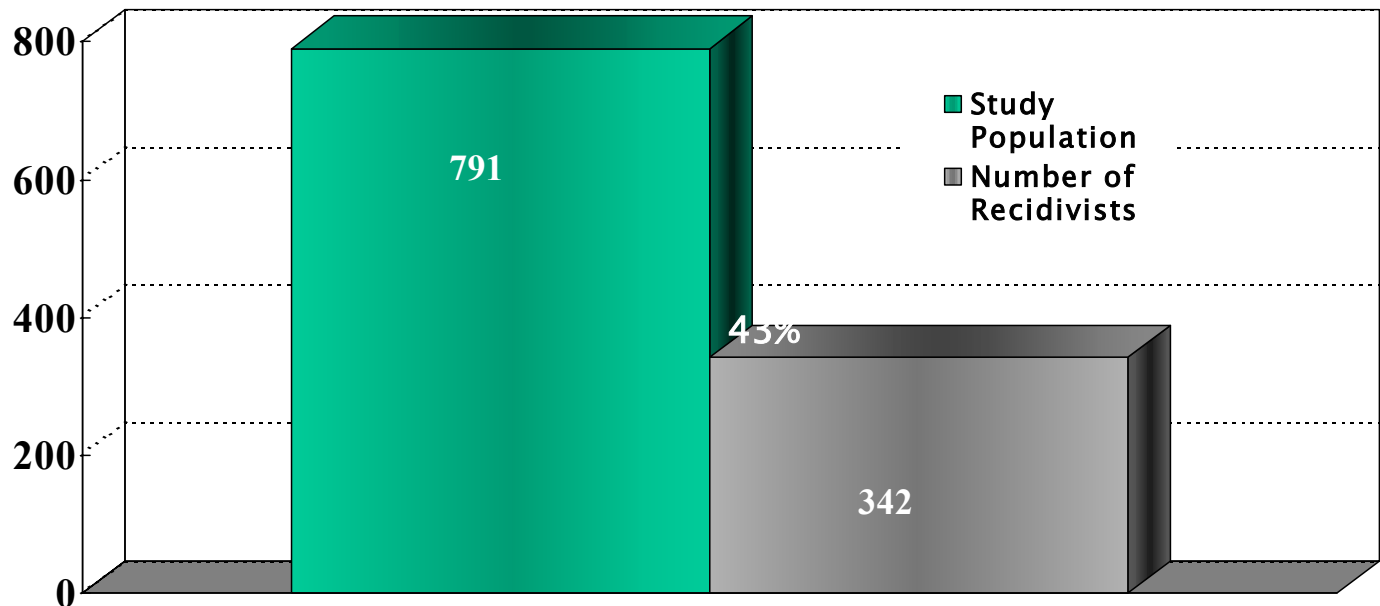
Facility enhancement continued. With the new staff, additional space was required to meet basic office needs. An applaudable working relationship between staff and the Arkansas Building Authority real estate staff proved very beneficial in providing professional facilities needed to continue as an essential community service provider.

The overall assessment of the quality of the performance of staff was “exceptional.”

# DCC Parole Recidivism – June 2003

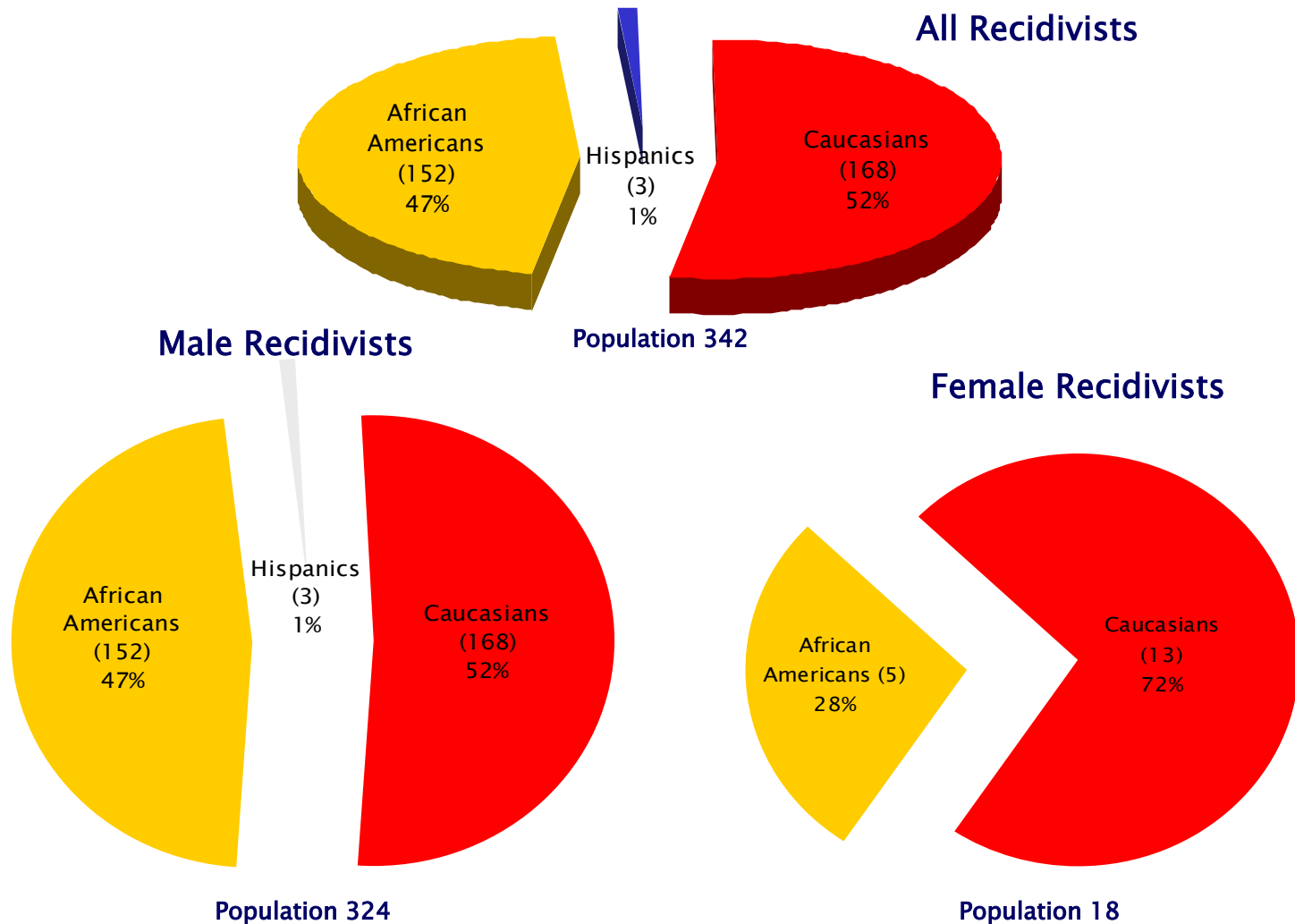
**Recidivism:** For the purpose of this study, recidivism is defined as being returned to incarceration in a prison or community correction center due to conviction for a new felony crime(s) or revocation for a technical violation(s).

**Study Group:** The study group consisted of 791 randomly selected parolees who were released to parole sometime during calendar year 1999. The gender and racial composition was as follows: Males 718--91% (406 Caucasians, 292 African Americans, 15 Hispanics, 2 Cubans, 2 Asians, and 1 Native American) and Females 73--9% (51 Caucasians, and 22 African Americans).

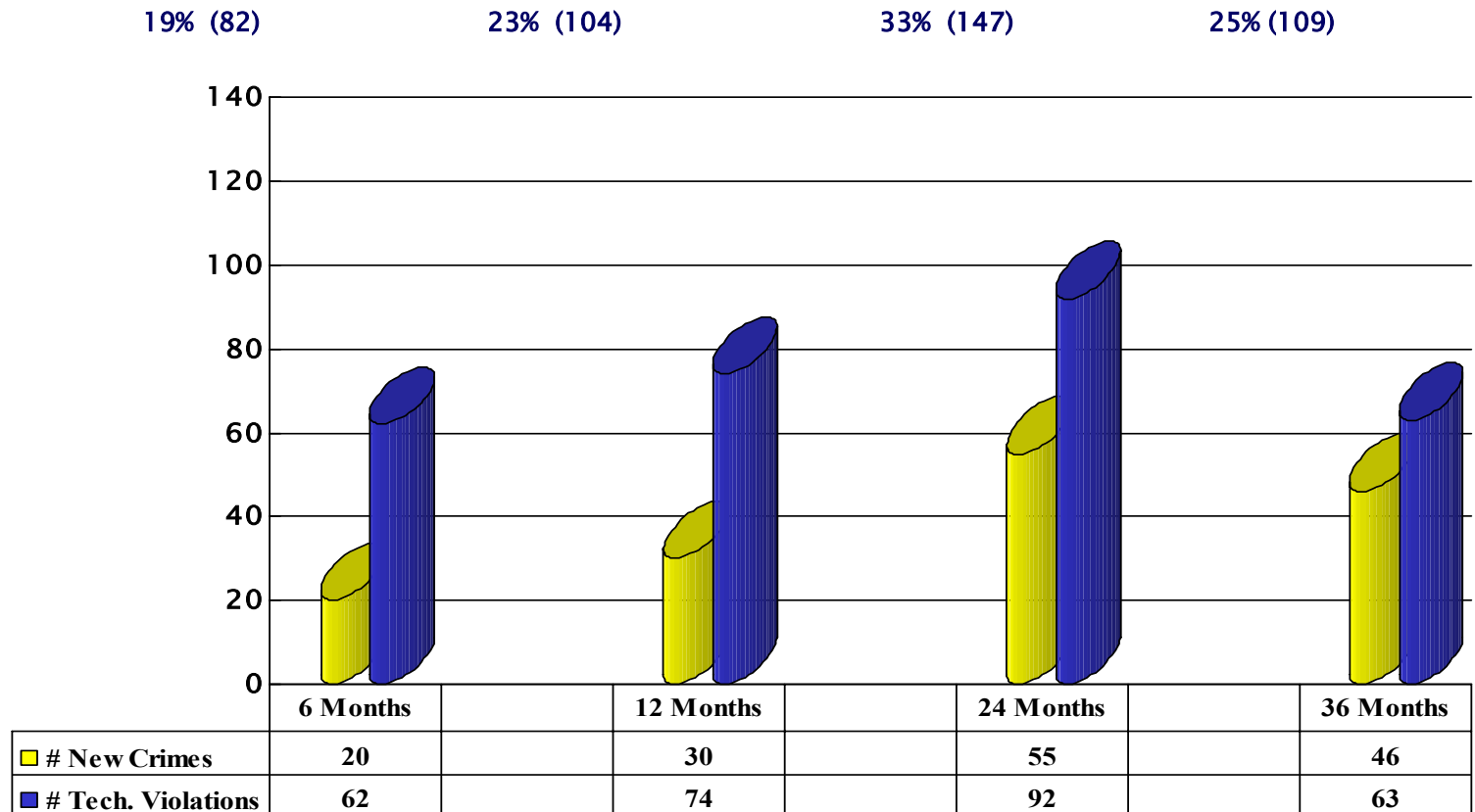


**Results:** Following review of 36 months of activity, 342 offenders recidivated (43%) with 90 habitual offenders (26% of recidivists) being re-incarcerated more than once. Recidivists include 324 males (95%) with an average age of 34 years and 18 females (5%) with an average age of 38 years; and the 342 recidivists committed 442 violations, 291 (66%) technical violations and 151 (34%) new crimes.

# Parole Recidivist June 2003

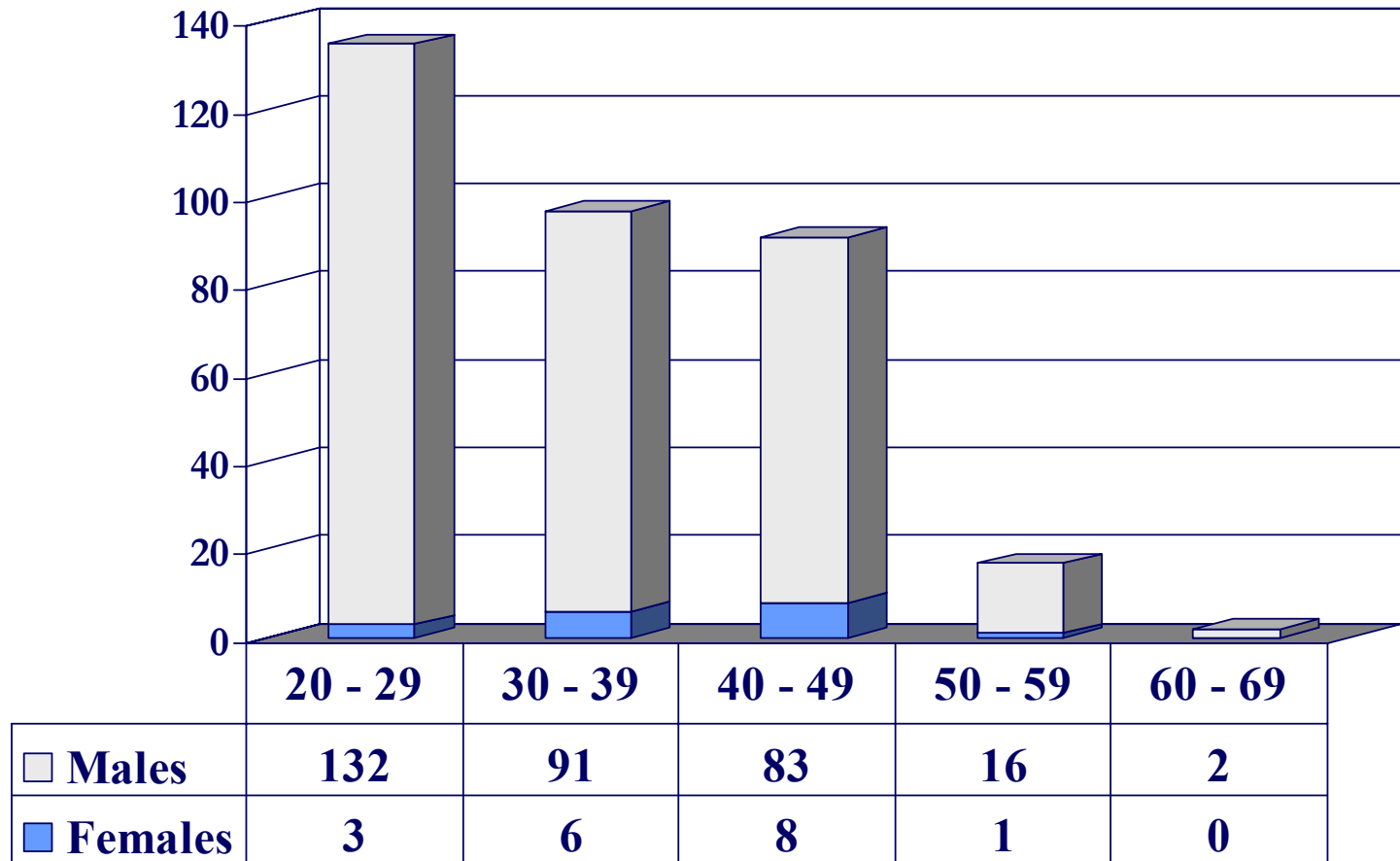


# Parole Percent Recidivism by Period



**STATUS:** Of the 442 offences, 321 (73%) occurred while the offender was in supervision status, 95 (21%) while in absconder status, and 26 (6%) after the offender had been discharged from supervision. NOTE: Twenty-two (6%) of the recidivists were out-of-state at the time of recidivating.

# Age of Parole Recidivist by Gender



June 2003



# Interstate Compact

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The Interstate Compact allows states to enter into agreements with each other for the transfer and supervision of parolees and probationers who travel from state to state. The Deputy Interstate Compact Administrator and administrative staff (3) process investigation requests for transfer of supervision to and from other states, progress reports, and extraditions. Serving as the communication liaison between Arkansas offices and out-of-state offices, the Compact staff provide official notice of acceptance or rejection of offenders for interstate transfer of Parole or Adult Probation supervision.

During fiscal year 2001, the 83rd General Assembly of the Arkansas Legislature passed Senate Bill 252, now Act 253 of 2001, which became effective following the same action of 34 states and one year following the first meeting of the newly created Interstate Commission. This legislation totally revamped the old compact and designated the DCC Director as the State Interstate Compact Administrator. Later the DCC Director was elected Chair of the National ISC. As of June 30, 2002, the 35th state enacted the Interstate Compact.

The purpose of the new compact and the Interstate Commission will be to provide the framework for the promotion of public safety and protect the rights of victims through the control and regulation of the Interstate movement of offenders in the community; to provide for the effective tracking, equitably distribute the costs, benefits and obligation of the compact among the compacting states. In addition, this compact will create an Interstate Commission that will establish uniform procedures to manage the movement between states of adults placed under community supervision and released to the community under the jurisdiction of courts, paroling authorities, corrections or other criminal justice agencies which will promulgate rules to achieve the purpose of this compact; ensure an opportunity for input and timely notice to victims and to jurisdictions where defined offenders are authorized to travel or to relocate across state lines; establish a system of uniform data collection, access to information on active cases by authorized criminal justice officials, and regular reporting of compact activities to heads of state councils, state executive, judicial, and legislative branches and criminal justice administrators; monitor compliance with rules governing interstate movement of offenders and initiate interventions to address and correct non-compliance; and coordinate training and education regarding regulations of interstate movement of offenders for officials involved in such activity.

# Community Correction Centers

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- The Department of Community Correction (DCC) operated four community-based correction centers during the report period. The centers are located in Pine Bluff (250-bed female facility); Little Rock (150-bed male unit); Texarkana (325-bed male unit); and Osceola (240-bed male unit). Some of the significant accomplishments are summarized below.
- The Southeast Arkansas Community Correction Center (SEA) received funds from the Arkansas Heritage Department to renovate the Sorrel's Cottage, a building on the SEA campus which is on the Arkansas and National Register of Historical Sites. Residents at that facility and other DCC facilities also provided labor toward completion of the project.
- Plant and flower donations helped to beautify the SEA campus. Several roses grown by residents were entered into the Southeast Livestock and Rodeo Fair where honors of 2 first place and 1 second place were awarded. The rose garden was a collaborative effort between SEC, Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Agency, and the Pine Bluff Clean and Beautiful. Master Gardner's of County Extension Agency of Pulaski County volunteered their time and donated plants and flowers to the Central Arkansas Community Correction Center (CAC).
- Some of the community programs in which community correction center residents were involved in terms of providing assistance included Operation Starting Line, the Race for the Cure, the Angel Tree Program sponsored by Prison Fellowship, Christmas Caroling on the Oncology Ward and the surgery waiting room areas at UAMS, chalking a background used as a backdrop for an Easter Egg Hunt (75 children attended), assisting with setting up for the Annual Tracy Lawrence Foundation Fundraiser. Money raised from this concert was designated for local scholarships as well many as community service projects in the Texarkana and Foreman, Arkansas areas.
- The SWA staff held a silent auction where \$1,819.76 was raised to benefit the United Way. This auction was a success and staff participation was great. The Staff is looking forward to participating again next year.
- The American Correctional Association (ACA) accreditation team awarded the CAC a score of 98.2% of required standards; a recommendation for Therapeutic Community Accreditation on non-mandatory standards & 100% of mandatory standards.
- DCC implemented a new method of offender access to law materials. The Law Library was set up for internet access for the residents to use online.
- A Russian Methodist group toured the CAC Therapeutic Community Program.
- The SEA Assistant Center Supervisor and Rehabilitation Specialist Program Administrator were recognized by the Jefferson County Red Cross Association for contributing many hours of service provided by Community Work Crews cleaning and beautifying the City of Pine Bluff and Jefferson County. The SEA Center Supervisor received the DCC Director's Award, while the NEA Personnel Officer was honored with the agency Support Staff of the Year. The SWA Treatment Coordinator, received the "Employee of the Year" award. The SWA also held an "Appreciation Luncheon" for volunteers who received awards for their dedication and work at our center.

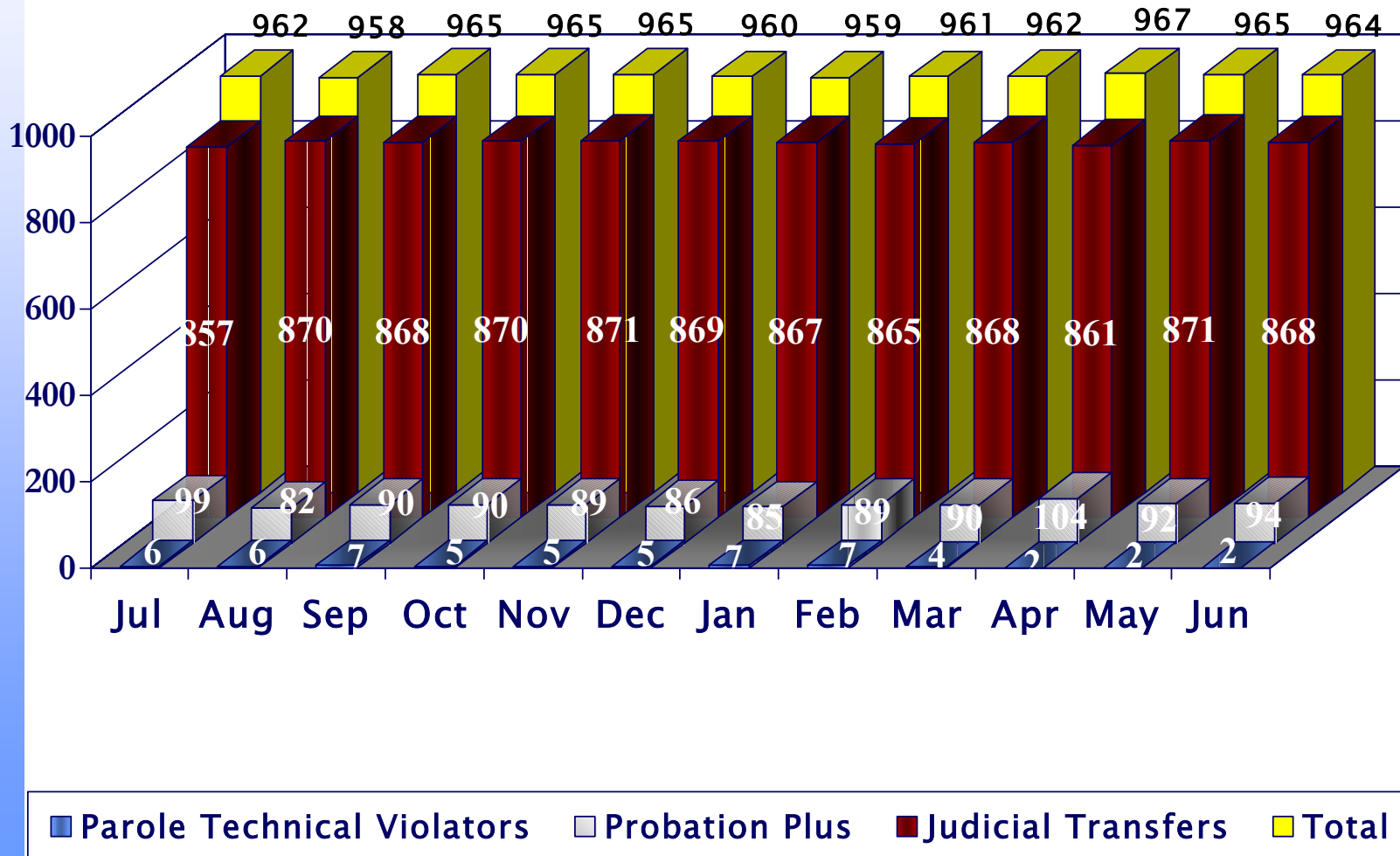
- The Southwest Arkansas Community Correction Center (SWA) Clinical Supervisor certified three counselors in M.R.T. Training was provided to the treatment staff concerning a new assessment tool, Addiction Severity Index (ASI), which was implemented, and concerning Master Treatment Plans.
- DCC provided an instructor, SAPL, for UALR/Mid-South Training on “Introduction to Alcohol and Drug Dependency”. This training benefited counselors working toward CADC Certification (Certified Alcohol/Drug Abuse Counselor).
- SEC offered English, developmental reading, introduction to computers, elementary algebra and welding college courses to residents from funding provided through a grant obtained from the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998. Also, the Southeast Arkansas Community College (SEARK) provided (at no cost) a parenting class instructor and materials to SEC residents who are mandated by the courts to complete the required course.
- Seventy-eight SEA female residents participated in non-traditional education programs at the Southeast Arkansas Community College. Of that number, 55 remain incarcerated and are continuing non-traditional training. Demographics of the participant population are 66 White, 11 African American, and 1 Native American, with an average age of 31, marital status is 27% single, 20% married, 40% divorced, and 13% separated or widowed. The participants have 9 children from pregnant to age 2, 25 from ages 3 to 5, 34 from ages 6 to 10, 23 from ages 11 to 15, 52 are 16 and older, and 20 women had no children..
- A total of 180 residents at all centers successfully obtained their GED. Classes were conducted at not cost to DCC. Twenty-five SEA residents were baptized; 78 completed the welding class at Cotton Boll Voc Tech School; 9 residents paid their own tuition of \$275.00 to enroll in a 6-week Machine Tool Technology class at Cotton Boll Voc Tech School.
- DCC obtained a 3-year license from the Arkansas Department of Health, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention for the Alcohol and/or Drug Abuse Treatment Program at the SEA.
- This first “Women’s Health Fair” was presented to SEC residents. Representatives from the Tobacco Coalition, Arkansas Department of Health, Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health Services and Women’s Project were represented. This event will be planned annually to be inclusive of additional state agencies and/or service providers.
- Three SEC staff received scholarships to participate in an “Addiction Study Program” that will result in a Master’s Degree from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. A criterion for program entrance was employment in the field related to substance and alcohol addiction. The University has also worked on collaboration with SEC in providing treatment resources to residents.

- The SEC Choir preformed at numerous events around Southeast and Central Arkansas including the “Mothers in Prison, Children in Crisis” event at the state, capitol, sponsored by Arkansas Voices for the Children Left Behind State Coalition.
- Jefferson County Comprehensive Health Care System implemented a HIV Testing Program for SEA residents desiring to be tested during their incarceration period. Following the test (provided at no cost to residents) and receipt of results, counseling was provided when needed.
- SEARK Asset tested 96 women to determine their education levels. They provided 8 different instructors for the following classes: Welding, Industrial Technology, Introduction to Computers, Learning to Learn, Basic English, English Composition I, Developmental Reading, and Elementary Algebra. All classes are fast tracked for an 8 week semester. Participation included 44 elementary algebra, 13 principles of technology, 23 PC maintenance and repair, 50 intro to computers, 14 learning to learn, 32 developmental reading, 21 basic welding, 10 Manufacturing welding, 17 in English Composition I, and 16 basic English. Three residents were dropped from classes for court or medical reasons.

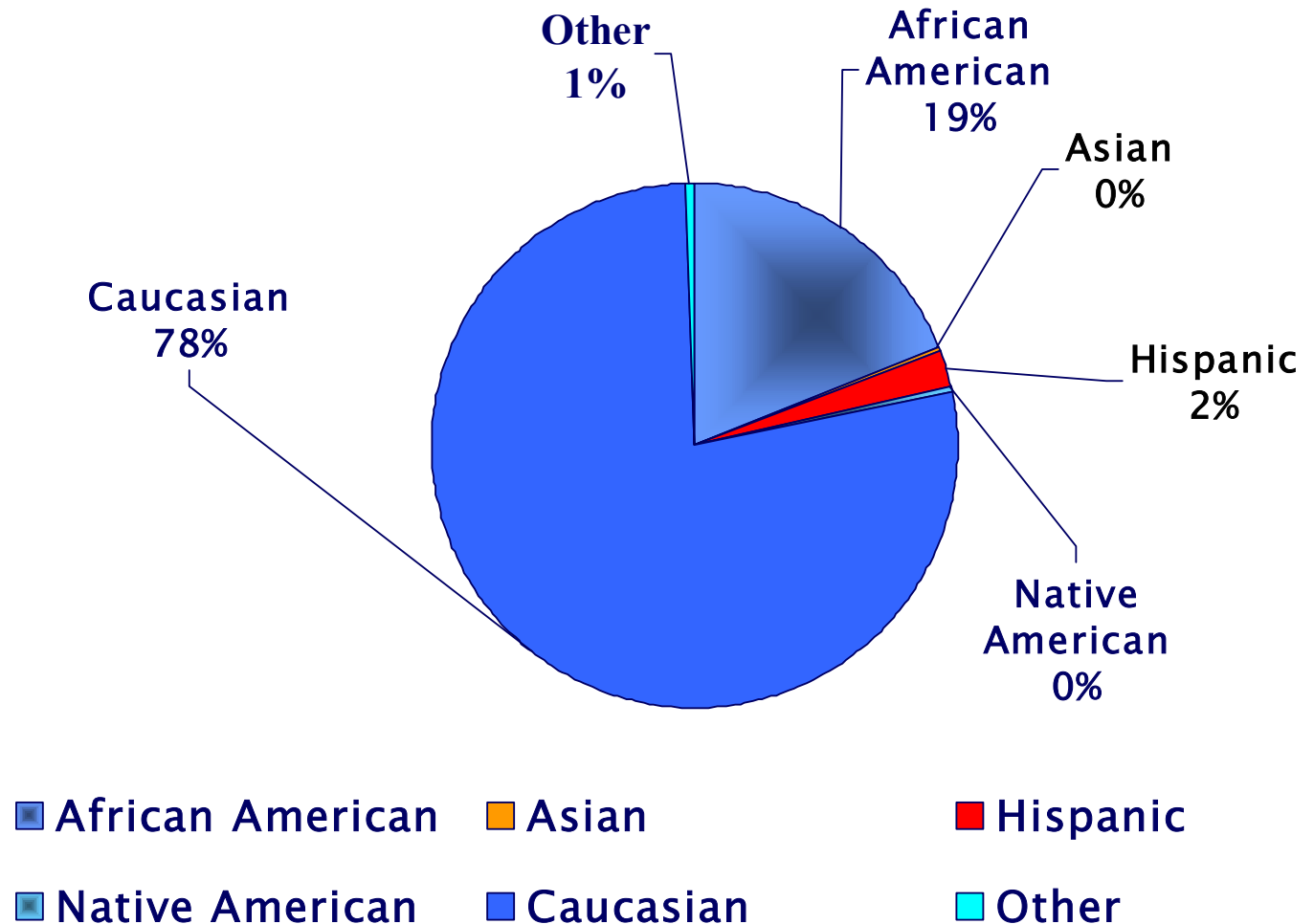
COURSES	LETTER GRADE				
	A	B	C	D	F
Elementary Algebra	23	6	6	5	4
Principles of Technology	2	6	2	2	1
PC Maintenance & Repair	10	2	1	0	0
Introduction to Computers	33	1	0	0	1
Learning to Learn	7	3	3	0	1
Developmental Reading	8	7	4	0	0
Basic Welding	8	2	0	0	0
English Composition	16	1	0	0	0

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- After Release from the SEA, 62% applied for Pell grants upon release and only 4 were denied; 63% applied to a community college or vocational technical school upon release; 21 are currently employed with wages ranging from \$5.15 per hour to \$18.00 per hour; 6 residents are completing their education in community colleges or vocational schools around the state; and 44% required state assistance (e.g. food stamps, housing, Medicaid, TANF) prior to incarceration, while 56% did not. Of the 180 participants in the program, 4 absconded from parole or probation; 2 were incarcerated for a technical violation or a new conviction; 4 transferred parole supervision out of the state; and no information was available on 10 residents who completed their parole supervision and did not continue with the education. At this point, there have been no graduates; however, one resident is expected to be the first graduate soon because she was able to transfer previous college hours.
  - A Standard Review Team performed a licensure review to determine if the Special Needs Program at SWC met the standards necessary for the issuance of a license. The Standards Review Team found the Special Needs Program in compliance with the ADAP licensure standards and recommended a three (3) year license be awarded.

# Community Correction Center End-of-Month Population FY' 03



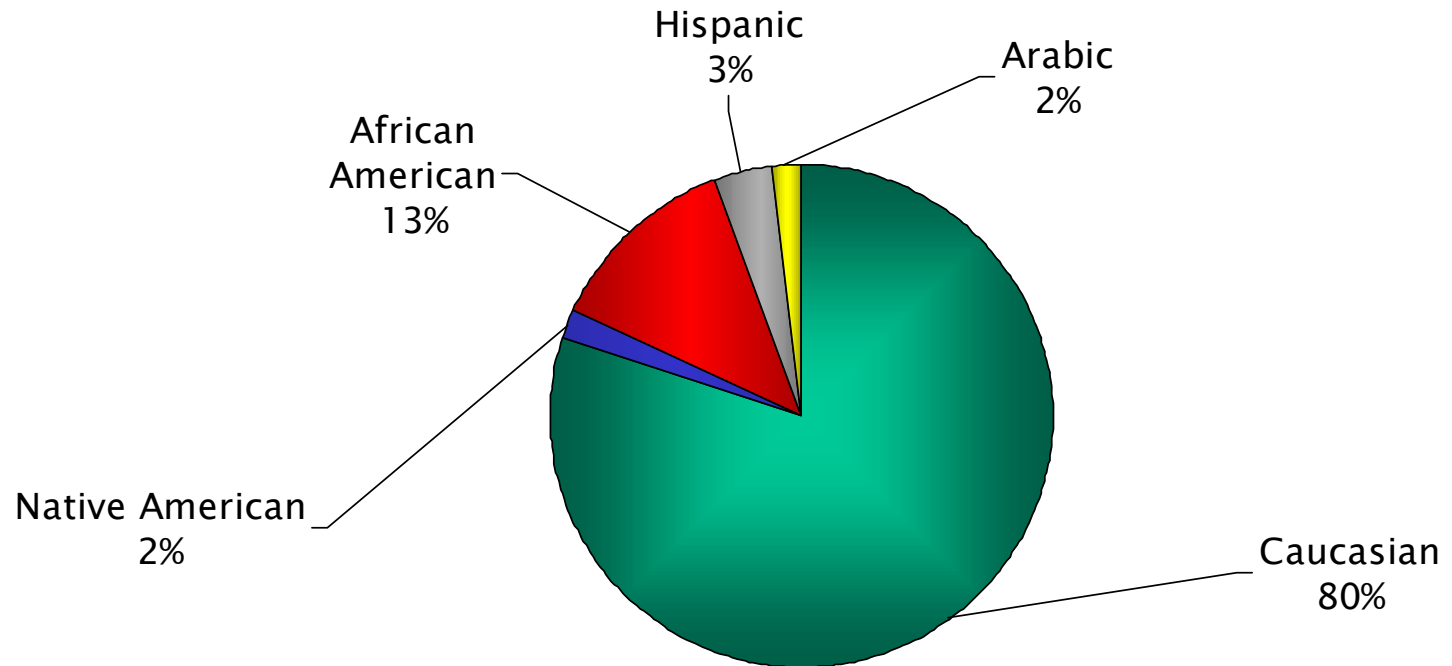
# Arkansas Community Correction Centers Population by Race – June 2003



**Males – 714    Females - 250**

# Special Needs Unit Racial Breakdown June 30, 2003

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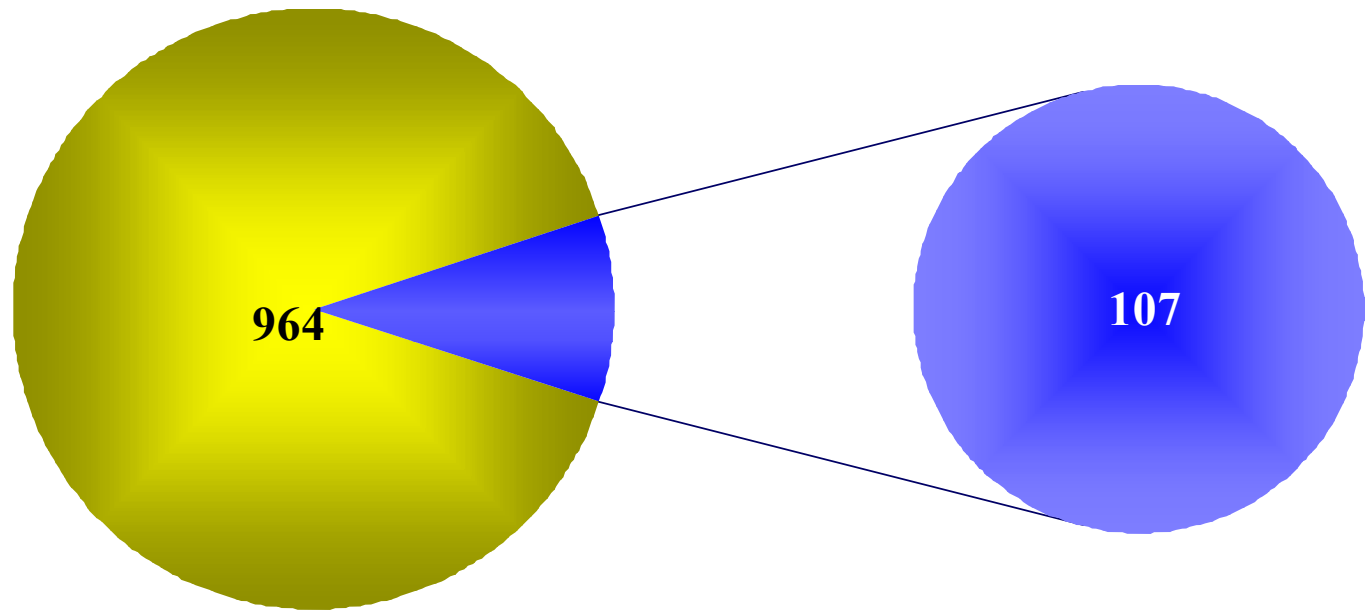




# Arkansas Community Correction Centers Drug Testing – June 2003

**Total Population**

**Residents Tested**



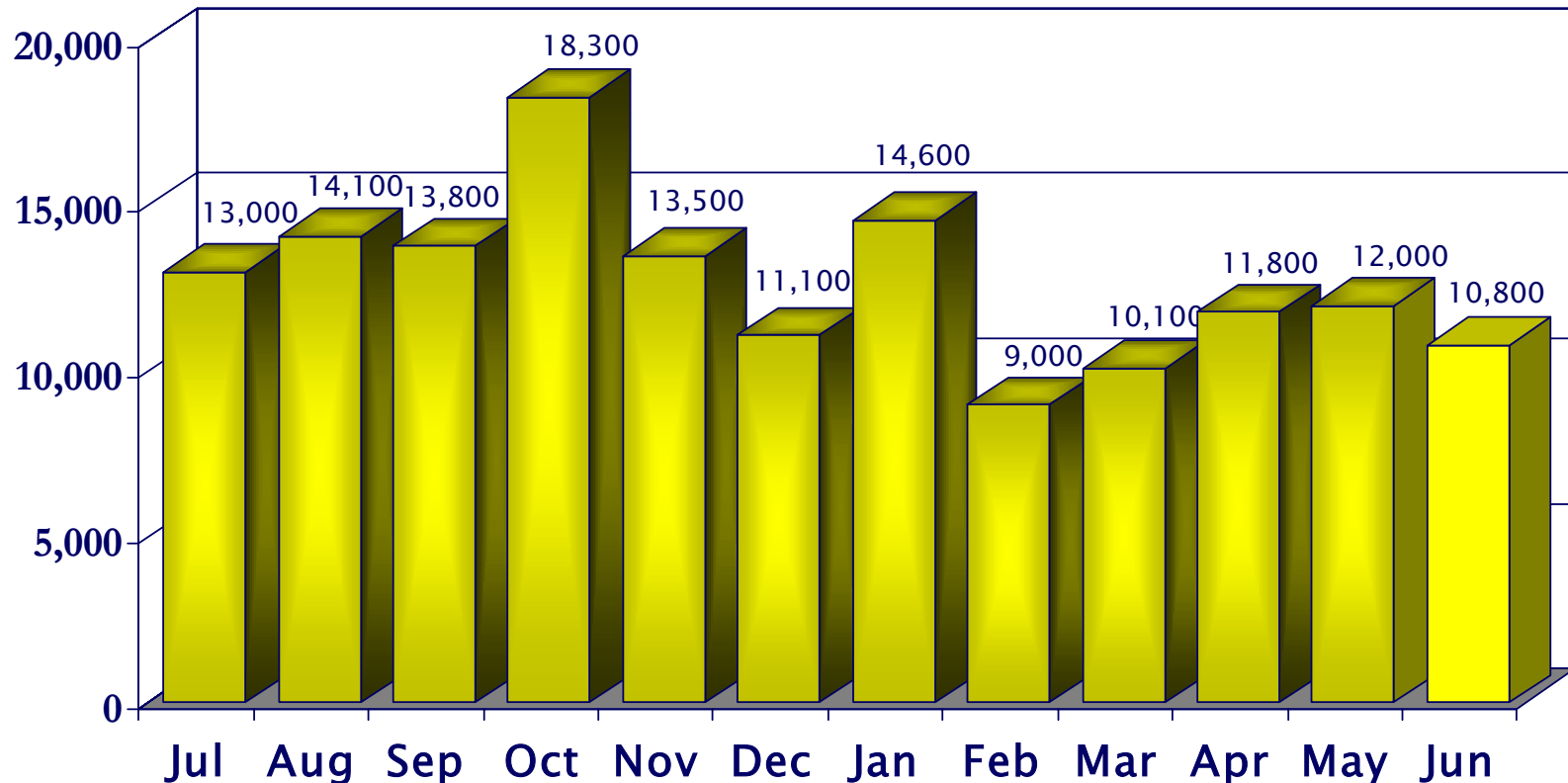
■ Total Population ■ Number Tested

Males Tested – 107 (15%)

Number Positive – 0

Females Tested – 0

# Arkansas Community Correction Centers Community Service Hours – FY' 03



Hours are rounded to the nearest hundred.

Total Hours for FY 03 = 152,000

# Recidivism

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For the purpose of this study, recidivism is defined as being returned to incarceration in a prison or community correction center due to conviction for a new felony crime (s) or revocation for a technical violation (s).

The center recidivism rates are quite encouraging based on the three recidivism studies conducted within the timeframe of this report.

Early studies conducted when the Centers were operated as “punishment centers,” show a 38% recidivism rate. After changing to a modified therapeutic community with the emphasis on treatment, it should be noted that we are having a positive impact on the offenders we supervise.

A national study by the Bureau of Justice states “within three years from their release in 1994 ....67.5% of all inmates released were rearrested for a new offense....and 51.8% were back in prison, serving time for a new prison sentence or for a technical violation.”

**Services:** Community Correction Centers in Little Rock, Texarkana, Pine Bluff, and Osceola offer short and long term substance abuse treatment, education, limited vocational technical training, and life and job skills programs to residents. The sentence length can be up to two years. Treatment is based upon a modified therapeutic community modality.

**Study Group:** The study group consisted of 900 randomly selected male and female offenders released from a community correction center (CCC) prior to March 1, 2000. The study group participated in short or long term substance abuse treatment and services in a residential community correction center. The study group demographics included 670 (74%) males (509 Caucasian, 147 African American, 9 Hispanic, and 5 other) and 230 females (184 Caucasian, 44 African American, and 2 Hispanic). The average age was 32 years for males and 36 years for females.

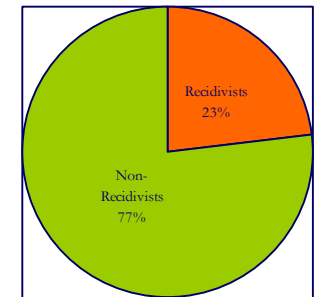
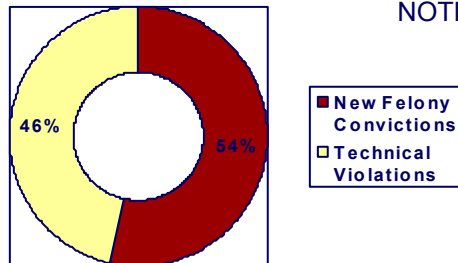
**Preliminary Results at 24 Months:** Although the 3-year study is still in progress, preliminary results at 24 months indicate a 23% recidivism rate.

207 recidivists committed 235 violations. 62% recidivated within the first twelve months after release to the community.

Seventy-four percent (74%) of offenders recidivated while under community supervision (10% of whom were absconded) and 26% occurred following discharge of their sentences.

### 23% Recidivism Rate (24 months after release from a CCC)

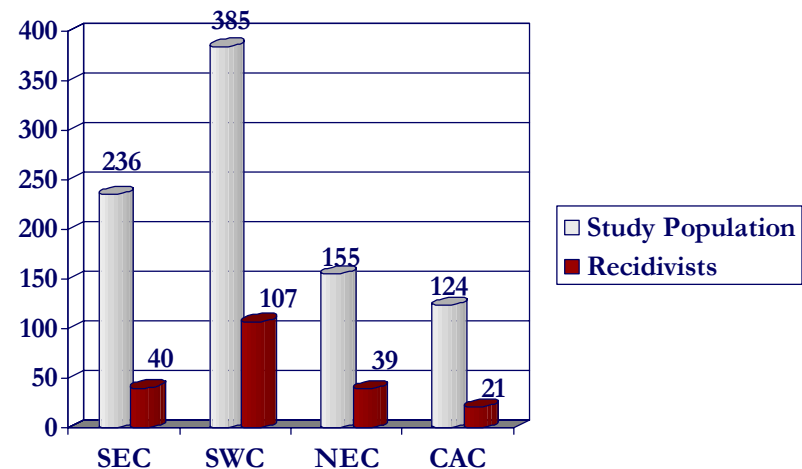
NOTE: Includes offenders with multiple violations



Recidivists Non-Recidivists

## Breakdown by Center

SEC: Southeast AR Center  
SWC: Southwest AR Center  
NEC: Northeast AR Center  
CAC: Central AR Center



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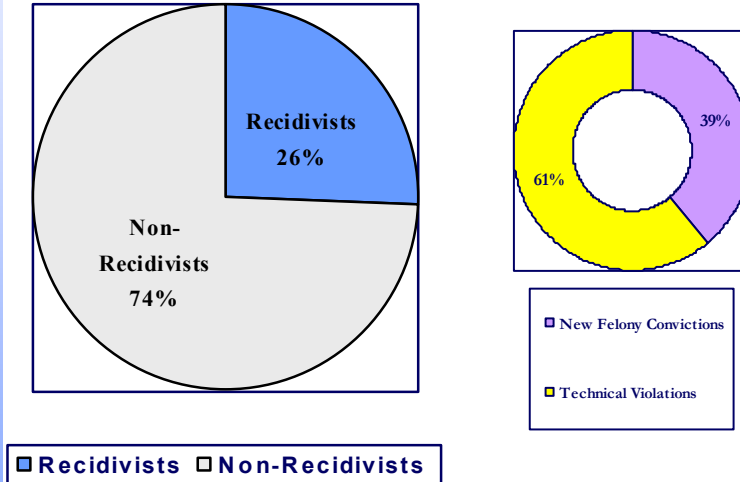
## Methamphetamine and Cocaine

**Long Term Treatment:** Community Correction Centers located in Little Rock, Texarkana, Pine Bluff, and Osceola offer a long term substance abuse treatment program to confined residents. The length of stay in long term treatment is from six (6) to twelve (12) months and the program is based upon a modified therapeutic community or cognitive reconstructing modality.

**Study Group:** The study group consisted of 271 offenders released from a community correction center (CCC) between January 1, 1999, and June 30, 2000. The group demographics include 205 males (80% Caucasian and 20% African American) and 66 females (79% Caucasian and 21% African American). The average age of the male participant was 37 years and female was 36 years. All study participants participated in long term treatment of six months or more in a residential community correction center and had cocaine and/or methamphetamine as their primary and/or secondary drug(s) of choice.

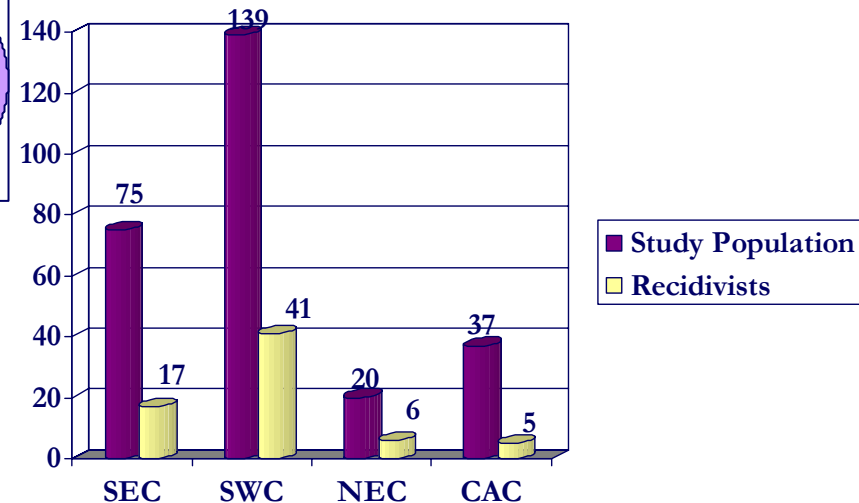
**Preliminary Results:** Although the 3-year study is still in progress, preliminary results at 24 months indicate a 25% recidivism rate, with 69 offenders committing 47 technical violations and 30 new felony convictions. Offender status at point of violation: 58% occurred while the offender was under community supervision; 18% occurred while in absconder status; and 23% occurred following discharge of the sentence.

## 25% Recidivism Rate (24 months after release from a CCC)



69 offenders committed 47 technical violations and 30 new felonies. Fifty-eight percent occurred while the offender was under community supervision; 18% occurred while in absconder status; and 23% occurred after discharge of the sentence.

## Recidivism Breakdown by Center



SEC: Southeast AR community Correction Center, Pine Bluff  
 SWC: Southwest AR Community Correction Center, Texarkana  
 NEC: Northeast AR community Correction Center, Osceola  
 CAC: Central AR Community Correction Center, Little Rock

**Special Needs Program (SNP):** The SNP is a 60-bed male unit (within the Southwest Arkansas Community Correction Center at Texarkana) operated in a modified therapeutic community for dually diagnosed offenders. Major components of this program are geared specifically toward addressing substance abuse, mental and medical health issues. The SNP opened September 1, 1999.

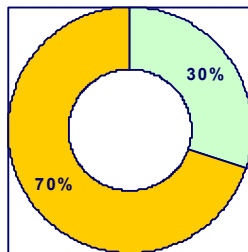
**Note:** For the purpose of this study, only the convictions for a new felony crime (s) considered.

**Study Group:** The study group consisted of 87 male offenders released to the community between September 1, 1999, and January 23, 2001.

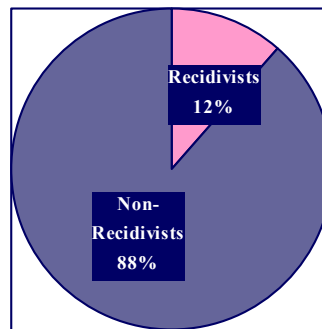
**Preliminary Results at an 11% recidivism rate at 24 Months:** Although the 3-year study is still in progress, preliminary results indicated recidivism at 6 and 12 months.

### 11% Recidivism Rate (12 months after release from a SNP)

At 6 months – an 8 % recidivism rate. At 12 months – an 11% recidivism rate during the first 12 months of release from the SNP. Additionally, the status of the study group at 12 months of release are as follows: 14% under the supervision of a parole/probation officer, 1% died, 78% discharged their sentences and are no longer under DCC jurisdiction, and 7% were incarcerated.

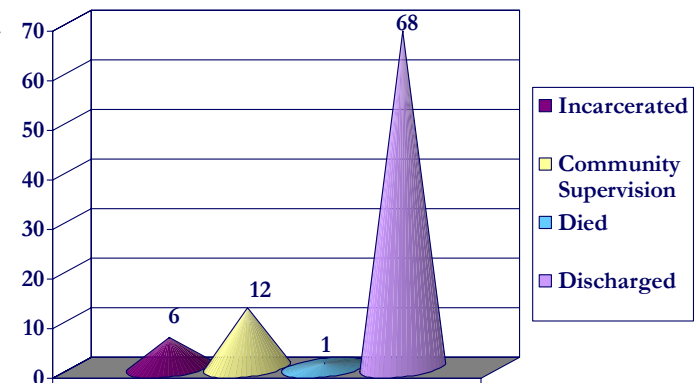


□ New Felony Convictions  
■ Technical Violations



■ Recidivists ■ Non-Recidivists

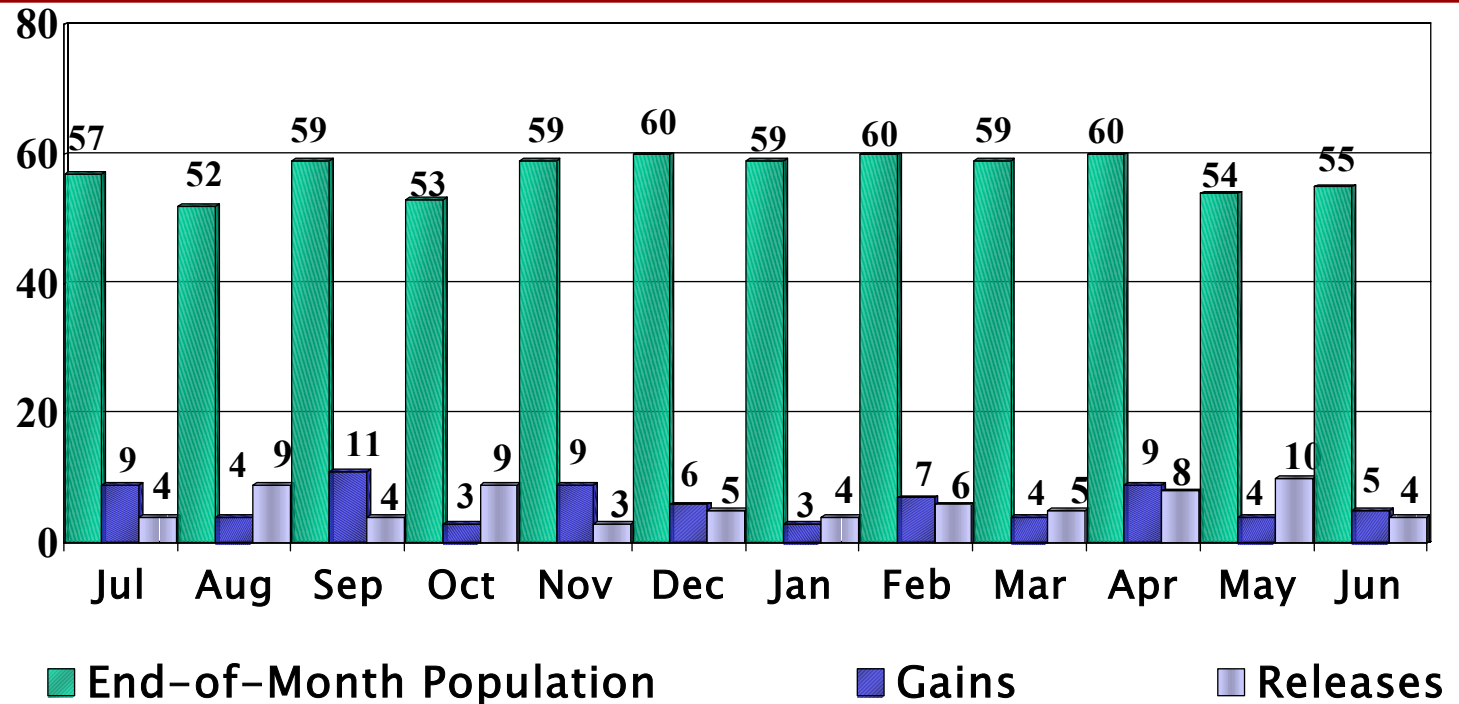
### Group Status at 12 Months



■ Incarcerated  
■ Community Supervision  
■ Died  
■ Discharged

NOTE: Includes offenders with multiple violations

# Special Needs Unit FY' 03 Population Southwest AR Community Correction Center



## Releases for Fiscal Year 2003

Completed	57
Discharged Noncompliant	6
Transferred to general population prior to completion	3
Transferred	0
Released on Discharge Prior to Completion	5



# Web Site

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This report is also available on the  
Department of Community Correction  
web site @  
[www.dcc.state.ar.us](http://www.dcc.state.ar.us)

